No.15

METAL FORCES

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AGENT STEEL

JOSHUA

DESTRUCTOR

KIX

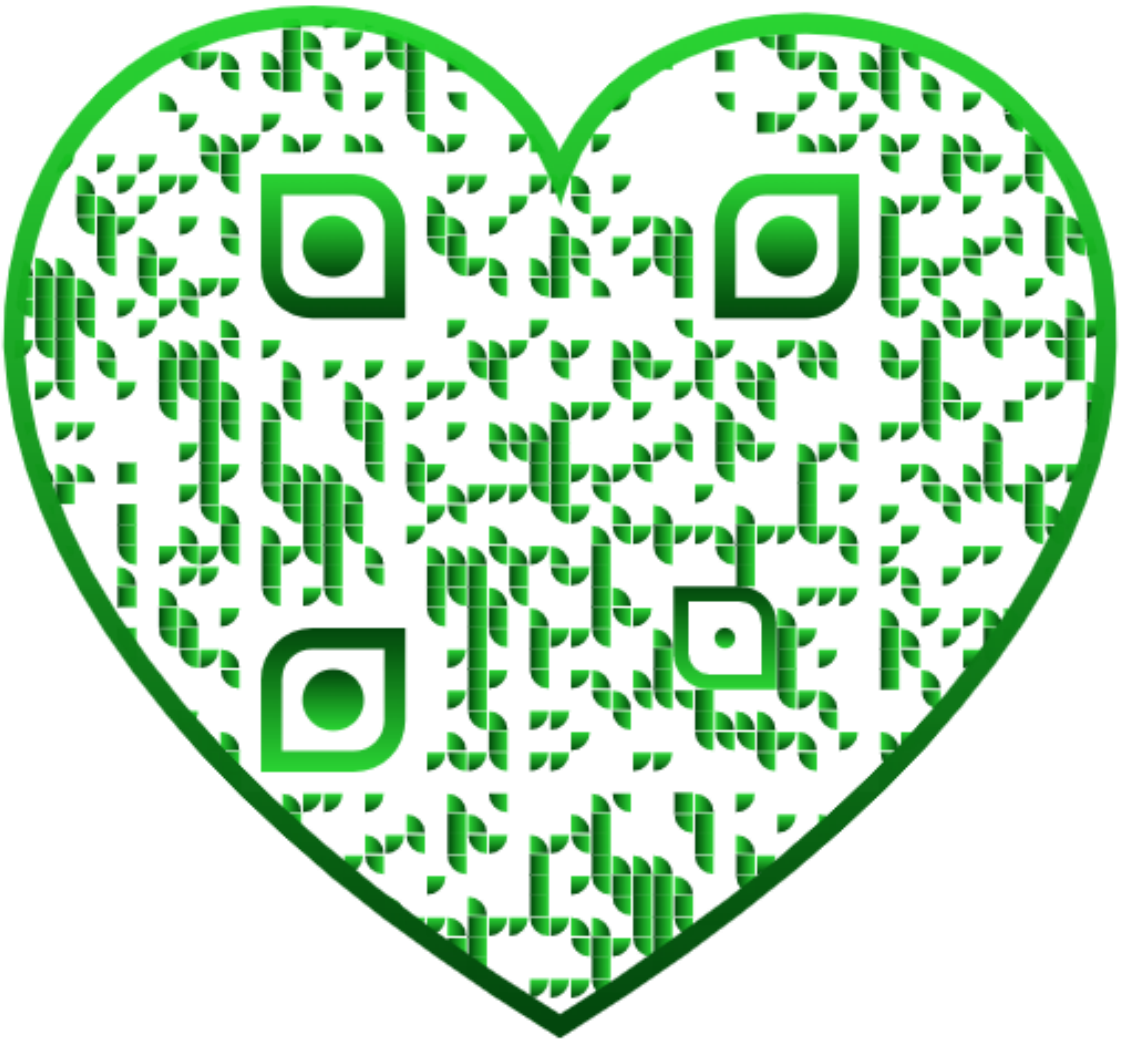
AVENGER

SURGIN

MAXX WARRIOR

S.O.D.

DEADLY NIGHTMARE



EDITORIAL

The end of another year and time once again for all you readers to put pen to paper in the 3rd METAL FORCES Annual Poll and let us know the bands, musician, albums etc..... that have impressed you the most over the past twelve months. No doubt METALLICA will feature highly in our poll once again having topped seven out of the nine categories they contested in the last poll. But without any new vinyl product available and only a handful of gigs in '85, METALLICA can expect some strong competition this year from all corners of the metal globe. Anyway all will be revealed in MF 17 and full details of the Readers Poll can be found on page 9.

As revealed in the last issue, METAL FORCES will be taking a slightly different format in the new year. The Readers Letters page is being introduced by popular demand and now is the time to let us know your views, not just about METAL FORCES, but the metal scene in general. If you've got something to say, then drop us a line.

We also require your participation to compile a regular Readers Album chart: All you have to do is list your 5 favourite albums of the month, in order of preference, send it to us and at the end of each month we will compile the chart based on your votes giving 5 points for your first choice down to one point for the fifth. The first Readers Album chart will appear in January.

Those readers who want to subscribe to METAL FORCES should check out our special offer on page 45 , where thanks to Axe Killer Records we have 50 copies of the debut DIRTY LOOKS album up for grabs. Those of you who have already taken out subscriptions and feel that you're missing out needn't worry because the first 20 readers with current METAL FORCES subscriptions (that expire after MF issue No. 16) who drop us a line will also receive a copy of the album. Foreign subscribers only, may also claim by phone.

Well that's about all for now except to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and we look forward to receiving your continued support in 1986. Cheers!

ADVERTISING AND DISTRIBUTION

17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts SG2 OEP, ENGLAND. Tel: (0438) 720797

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All interested Advertisers should contact Bernard Doe at the above address for details of rates.

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PLAYLISTS

BERNARD DOE

1. Walls Of Jericho - HELLOWEEN (Noise LP)
2. Spread The Disease - ANTHRAX (Megaforce/Island LP)
3. Sirens - SAVATAGE (Music For Nations LP)
4. You Can't Have It All - CHROME MOLLY (Powerstation LP)
5. Powertrash - MESSIAH (Swiss) Demo

DAVE CONSTABLE

1. Soldiers Of The Night - VICIOUS RUMOURS (Shrapnel/Roadrunner LP)
2. I'll Get You Rockin' - THE GODZ (Heavy Metal America LP)
3. Walls of Jericho - HELLOWEEN (Noise LP)
4. Done With Mirrors - AEROSMITH (Geffen LP)
5. Astra - ASIA (Geffen LP)

STEVE HAMMONDS

1. Behaviour - SAGA (Portrait LP)
2. LYNNE ALLEN (US) Demo
3. Land Of The Gun - LEGS DIAMOND (Advance Tape of forthcoming LP on MFN)
4. Twitch - ALDO NOVA (Portrait LP)
5. Coney Hatch - CONEY HATCH (Mercury LP)

KELV HELLRAZER

1. Burning Bridges - THE GODZ (LP out-take)
2. Under The Table - ROSIE (US) Demo
3. Excess Marks The Spot - SHARK ISLAND (US) Demo
4. Crazy Lady - MONROE (US) Demo
5. The Feeling's Gone - NARITA (US) Demo

DAVE REYNOLDS

1. Soldiers Of The Night - VICIOUS RUMOURS (Shrapnel/Roadrunner LP)
2. Annihilation Absolute - CITIES (Metal Masters LP)
3. Billion Dollar Babies - ALICE COOPER (Classic Warner Bros LP)
4. LA ROCKS (US) Demo
5. HITTMAN (US) Demo

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BERNARD DOE

o METALLICA are currently in Copenhagen putting the finishing touches on their new album entitled "Master Of The Puppets".

o WARLOCK have parted company with guitarist Rudy Graf. At present a replacement is being sought but meanwhile the band should have just released a 12" EP of new material described by those who've heard it as ultra commercial.

o VIRGIN STEELE have just released their new album entitled "Noble Savage" on the Canadian based Cobra Records. The current VIRGIN STEELE line-up reads: David Defeis (vocals/keyboards), Edward Pursino (guitars), Joe O'Reilly (bass) and Joey Ayvazian (drums).

o WORLD WAR III have split up. Vocalist Tipa Sparrs has put together his own band.

o San Diego based ELYSION releases their debut album entitled "Blinded By Sound" on January 1st.

o Florida's SAVATAGE have parted company with bassist Keith Collins, due to musical differences, and have recruited Johnny Lee Middleton as a replacement.

The band are currently in London recording a new album for Atlantic Records at the Trident Studios. The album is expected to be released in the early spring.

Before they return to the States, SAVATAGE will be playing a number of gigs throughout Europe including dates in England.

By the way Music For Nations have just released the bands classic debut album "Sirens" in the UK for the first time.

o FATE, the band formed by ex-MERCYFUL FATE guitarist Hank Sherman, release their debut album "Fate" in the New Year on the EMI Denmark label. The band - that also features Jeff Limbo (vocals), Pete Steiner (bass/keyboards) and Bob Lance (drums) - are currently making a video before touring Scaninavia to promote the album which was recorded at the Easy Sound Studios in Copenhagen. The music is described as "American influenced heavy rock; direct, melodic and fast".

o Drummer Jeff 'Oly' Olson has left TROUBLE due to "personal reasons". The band are currently holding auditions to find a replacement, but until one has been found drummer Barry Stern from fellow Chicago metallist's ZOETROPE has been filling in for the bands recent live dates with MOTORHEAD.

o Female vocalist Betsy (above) has contacted METAL FORCES to inform us that BITCH are "still alive and kicking... or should I say licking!" and are currently shopping around a new demo to a number of major and independent labels. Betsy expects the new BITCH album to be released in the New Year.

o Bassist Dave Spitz has left WHITE LION (featured in MF 14) to join BLACK SABBATH. The ex- AMERICADE member worked with SABBATH's Tony Iommi on the guitarist's solo album earlier this year.

o Ex-WITCH members Peter Wabitt (vocals) and Punky Peru (drums) have formed a new band that goes under the monicker of SPOILT ROTTEN, and also features three female members.

o Big news in LA at the moment are MASQUE who feature ex-NETWORK members Tony Kelly and Bruffy Bingham and ex-THRUST drummer Ross Christao. Greg Guiffria turned up for the bands first gig so interesting things are imminent.

o EVEREST have now replaced vocalist Rick McDonald with a female singer and are currently working with producer Terry Brown on new demos.

o More on the Wendy O'Williams "Fuck'n'Roll" EP. It transpires that this is only available on cassette and available soley from W.O.W. HQ. The gargantuan package, which comes with a rather explicit cover shot of the lady herself, contains live versions of "Fuck'n'Roll"; "Ain't None Of Your Business" (including full uncut banana rap) and "Bump And Grind" recorded at L'Amours in New York. This hot item can be obtained for the sum of $4.98 plus $1.50 p+p. (NYC residents add 8¼% Sales Tax.) Foreign orders must add 2 dollars per order. All foreign orders must be paid in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. Send orders to Jackhammer Records, P.O. Box 837, New York, 10013, USA.

o Welsh band KOOGA go into the studio in January to begin recording their debut album for Black Dragon Records and is expected to be released in March.

Other new releases due on the French label in early '86 include the new album from American guitarist David Chastain with his band CJSS; the debut album from Seattle's HEIR APPARENT "Graceful Inheritance" (both released in January) and in February, the debut album from D.C. LACROIX.

o ARMED FORCE (above) who will be releasing their new album "Heavy Artillery" in the New Year are currently seeking a management deal. The band can be contacted at: ARMED FORCE, Battle Brigade, P.O.Box 164,Maple Shades, NJ 08052, USA.

o BOMBAY is the name of a new band formed by Rick Fowler (guitar/vocals) and Joel Shipp (bass) who were both formerly with FORT KNOX the Georgia, Atlanta band who released an album on Epic back in 1982.

o German metal act FACT are set to release their second album early in '86, titled "Without Warning" and will be the first recording with new bassist Thomas Rober who recently replaced Thorsten Kath. The band should be undertaking a tour of France following the albums release.

o EXCITER are still alive and thrashing. The Canadian band have brought in Brian McPhee to replace guitarist John Ricci and are currently in London recording a new album at Britannia Row Studios with producer Guy Bidmead. The album - the bands fourth - is entitled "Unveiling The Wicked" and is expected to be released in the UK by Music For Nations during March '86.

o CRISIS guitarist/vocalist Jeff Cross recently contacted MF to inform us that the band are currently negotiating for the release of the band's "Metal Meltdown" album that was mentioned in our feature on the band in MF 11. Meanwhile the band can be contacted at: P.O.Box 520896, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84152-0896, USA.

o SHARKS have changed their name to SHARK ISLAND and recruited a new bass player in the form of Tom Ruch. At the moment the band are in the process of securing a major record deal. .

o Houston area band MOX NIX (featured in MF No. 13) have just recorded their debut LP for Axe Killer Records. The LP will include the 4 songs on their only available demo and 6 other originals. The album to be entitled simply "Mox Nix" will be the first release for Axe Killer in 1986.

o Swedish trash band MANINNYA BLADE have recruited a new guitarist Jerry Rutstrom and are currently recording a new single "Fireborn"/ "Nosferatu" which is expected to be available early in the New Year. Contact: MANINNYA BLADE c/o N. Johansson, Alvagen 40, 191 43 Sollentina, SWEDEN.

o German metal producer Axel Thubeauville is currently working with new German melodic metal outfit CARRIE, fronted by **the pouting Annelin.** Meanwhile Axel has been involved with the production of the debut albums by OVERDOSE ("Tight Action") and WALLOP ("Metallic Alps"). Both records will be released on The Bonebreaker label, a Bellaphon subsidiary.

o Doug Marks legendary "Learn How To Play Guitar" man has formed a band called HAWK with Charles Morrille (BLACK KNIGHT) on vocals.

o Maybe GODZ new boy Freddie Salem may not remember the occasion, but a good few years ago, 1979, to be exact, the man contributed his services to an album by a young lady called Heidi Stern - released on Seattle based Music Is Medicine Records. This album also features appearances by ex-STRIKER members Scott Roseburg (guitar) and Rick Taylor (drums) and includes such 'gems' as JIMI HENDRIX's "Fire" and Jerry Lee Lewis' "Great Balls Of Fire".

Now this horrendous item could become a collector's piece for the lady in question now "rocks" (sic) under the name of Jennifer Rush who recently shot to number one in the UK Top 40 with the excrutiating "Power Of Love". The owner of the Heidi Stern album should hide his head in shame (I hate it! Honest! D.R.)

o Whatever happened to SHIT-DEATH - the band that threatned to explode into the thrash metal world with an orgy of porn metal??? Well fear not 'cos band leader Kryss Foxx has just crawled out of the Miami sewer system to inform MF that the outfit are still, just about alive and planning their first vinyl assault in '86, following the fruitless liason with Bullet Records. "I'm now in the process of putting a new line-up together" says Foxx "And I've been writing new material like "Going For Blood", "She's Such A Witch" and "Let 'Em Spread 'Em" and another one dedicated to this chick in N.Y. who really digs us called "Tie Me Up And Fuck Me!"!!" More news <u>WHEN</u> it happens.

ARTILLERY
Fear of Tomorrow Neat 1030

WARFARE
Metal Anarchy Neat 1029

PHASSLAYNE
Cut it Up Neat 1022

ATOMKRAFT
Future Warriors Neat 1028

VENOM
'Nightmare'12" EP
Neat 47-12

AVENGER
Killer Elite Neat 1026

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Neat Records & Music
(D.W.E. Ltd)

MAXXIMUM METAL!!

DAVE REYNOLDS Gets Stoned On MAXX WARRIOR
North Carolina's Metal Godz

So where does a trip begin? For me it began with an overdose of metallic mayhem from the latest hot to trot American metal act to emerge with freshly pressed vinyl. "High On Metal", the title track of North Carolina's MAXX WARRIOR's EP was blasting forth sweet'n'deadly music from the Stakk Attakked amps. In the inner sanctum of Shades I was entranced by the mesmerising power of that track. This was IT brothers. This was real Americana metallo for ya. I've never been quite the same again.

A few weeks later I received a phone call from Executive Records boss and ex-NANTUCKET bassist Mike Uzzell. Mike had been told by the hair-razin' Hellrazer that I was interested in doin' an interview with these boys signed to his label. And so.....

MAXX WARRIOR vocalist Carl Snare seems to be pretty down to Earth. No overblown ego, no loud mouth rantin' and ravin' about how his band are gonna crush all others into oblivion - they could do - no, Carl is a quietly spoken guy obviously more interested in letting the music do the boasting for him. I like that kind of approach. So let's get the lowdown on the band.

"Well we come from all over the East-Coast of the United States" says Carl "The band is Scott Atkins on guitar from Virginia; Alton Eddins - also on guitar, from Ashville North Carolina; Perry Richardson is the bassist, he's from South Carolina; Billy Doriey plays drums and he comes, like myself, from Pennsylvania.

"We've been together for three years but this "High On Metal" EP is our first recording." So how did you manage to hook up with Executive Records? "Well it was a long time ago. We were doing a tour and received a call from Mike Uzzell who had formed Showtime Management and Agency. We kinda hooked up with them as both of us were starting out at the beginning. They felt we needed an outlet so we formed an indie label and that's Executive". Who are also responsible for releasing the fifth album from Mike's old band NANTUCKET (see review in MF13).

You appear to have developed a pretty intense sound. How would you describe your music? "Well it's not speed metal, more a melodic type metal. It's hard'n'drivin' but we like to keep some hooklines in there".

As we spoke the record had only been out five days and due to hit the Western world with considerable force. The band claim a varied, diversified set of influences that include "JUDAS PRIEST, KISS, METALLICA, AEROSMITH - " and guess what? ANGEL too! Seems Carl and the boys have excellent taste! Actually MAXX WARRIOR don't come across as clones of any of the above, in fact I can't really give you any comparisons, THAT's how original they are to my ears y'see. Our American readers will hopefully be seeing MAXX WARRIOR, as well as hearing them, pretty soon. Although they've played a considerable portion of the U.S., they plan on assaulting your eyes and ears in support of the record.

How about New York Carl? "Well we'll be working our way up there by playing in Cincinatti, Ohio, Baltimore and Delaware, I hope we can play New York soon."

Which brings us to the question concerning the release of "High On Metal" in Europe. Are MAXX WARRIOR pushing for its release here? "Yes we are, right now we're working on distribution over there in Europe." If you need new excitement in your life. If you're sick to the back teeth of having to content yourselves with second-rate product from KISS, or waiting for the new PRIEST stormer then go spend your pounds, dollars, Deutsch Marks or Krone on "High On Metal".

I tell ya I don't do drugs - never have done, 'cos it's METAL of this quality that gets me goin'. I don't need no coke, smack or grass to hype me up baby. Disbelievers often ask me what I see in all this "Heavy Metal Noise". Well now you know. It's the BEST stimulant next to women, it's excitement, it's a dream come to life - it's when you start playing invisible guitar 'cos it's you who wants to be up on stage crankin' it out. And ya know it's true, frustrated musicians Do become music critics!

So what more can I tell ya 'bout MAXX WARRIOR? That they're friends of SUGAR-CREEK? "Yeah, we're good friends of SUGAR-CREEK. We've played with them a few times but obviously they're a completely different style of music." What about NANTUCKET Carl? "Oh we like them too. The funny thing is that way back when I was still living in Pennsylvania the drummer who is in NANTUCKET now and I were in a garage band who used to cover one of their songs." It's a funny world eh?

For those of you eager to grab a slice of the info action after hearing "High On Metal" why not write to: MAXX WARRIOR, WARRIOR MANIA, P.O.Box 18348, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27618 USA..... Raleigh eh? Whatever happened to DOC HOLLIDAY?!?

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FEATURING THE WORLD'S FASTEST LEAD GUITARIST

KELV HELLRAZER Talks To JOSHUA PERAHIA
The New Guitar God, That Writes Songs Instead of Solos

A chance import of JOSHUA's premier album "The Hand Is Quicker Than The Eye" arrived quietly on the London rock scene, in 1983, distributed by an LA based label. The album gained my attention for its thick, gutsy sound with lightning quick guitar leads by Joshua Perahia, the dominant force of the band. I was intrigued enough by the jagged, driving beat orchestrated with melodic rock textures, that I contacted the band in their home of California, finding them in the studio at the time; working on material for their next record entitled "Surrender". Also I found the band with a new line-up to that of the first record. The band now only features Joshua Perahia as an original member; his new recruits are: Lauren Robinson (bass), Patrick Bradlye (keyboards), Joseph Galletta (drums), Ken Tamplin (guitar/vocals), Jeff Fenhold (lead vocals) and of course Joshua Perahia (lead guitar).

An advance tape of the LP whisks its way to me (see MF 14 for review) and sure I'll vouch for its fierce rock sound from the powerful but melodic title cut "Surrender" to the riff-rocking guitar virtuosity of "Hold On", and the infectious remake of the YARDBIRDS tune "Heartful Of Soul". Not forgetting my personal favourite "Love Shock".

After many overseas phonecalls to LA, I finally got to meet Joshua in his South Kensington hotel. I had to meet the man who rockers in Japan had called "World's fastest lead guitarist". After watching him play, I don't think it will be long before this saying will catch on. Fiercely proud of his band, Joshua speaks with the confidence of a lion and the attitude of a true professional. Joshua was travelling with fellow guitarist Ken Tamplin. Ken also a hot guitarist bring together the fastest due I've ever heard.

The first thing I quizzed Joshua about was how he became involved with the guitar? "As a kid in the late 1960's I was introduced to the guitar by my next-door neighbour. Being that both my parents are Greek I was raised and fascinated by the speed and dexterity of the Bousiki, the staple of Greek music that is a bit of a cross between a large long-necked Mandolin, and a Russian Bellalyka. The

Greeks played with incredible speed. So I would borrow my friends acoustic guitar and copy what I'd seen him doing as well as what the Greek players were performing. I was self-taught and soon surpassed my friend who had been playing for a couple of years. Soon he wouldn't let me borrow his guitar any-more, so my parents saved up and bought me a music book and a harmony acoustic to start playing. Aside from seeking perfection in my style, tone and modes, I have always been a madman obsessed with clean buzzing articulate speed. Most people carry their calling cards, I play mine."

What's happening with the band record company wise in L.A.? Why the U.K. visit? "See the problem with the L.A. companies is that we don't know what they expect from us. A lot of them are going out of business or merging and they always seem to be firing executives as well. Our first album has a number one requested song called "Falling Again", that set radio phone lines on fire at the two biggest rock radio stations in L.A. - KLOS and KMET. Our video "Broken Dream" was played on MTV and Home Box Office cable TV on regular rotation, without a record deal. Sometimes you just can't give it away. I guess the companies want us to wear saw blades and kill our mothers on-stage before they will sign us!!?

"We came to the U.K., Europe and Japanese climates because they are orientated more towards good and new product. Out strategy calls for taking the second album abroad before launching it Stateside. We're knocked out by the fantastic response to the first album in Japan. We now have a fan club out there and we have signed with SMS Records to distribute "Surrender".

When Joshua dropped in at Shades Records he was overwhelmed by the intensity and interest of the English rockers, some of whom were autograph hounds and others were ones who had managed to get hold of the first album. What's your reaction to these happenings? "Surprised would be an understatement, I was blown away by their acceptance. They have an intense knowledge of bands metal wise, especially from L.A. That's probably one reason why the U.K. has a tendency to get behind new musical players and forms. New music trends originate in the U.K. and emigrate to the United States, regardless of whether it's pop, rock, new wave or metal.

"I wanna speak intensely about the music to fan relationship: first and foremost is delivery of sound to the fan. The music is the complete communication and that's where we put a lot of dollars and twice as much work. Too many of the current wave of acts are in to crass gimmicks like pentagrams etc., to get over to the audience. I still believe the quickest road to success is concentrating on the music and producing hit sounds."

Tell me about your involvement in the L.A. music scene? "For five years, I've performed an aggressive schedule of dates, rocking the walls of the finest clubs... Starwood, Roxy, Fleetwood, Troubadour, Golden Bear and Whiskey. I led the only local band that even attemped to hold down the status Hollywood clubs for solo shows, and with no opening acts to share space with, hauled in mountains of equipment and technical mastery. Rock and Rollers saw me and remembered. The band became one of the most popular and well known combining hard driving tunes, killer players and flash. I had the city street scene under my belt but not the coveted record contract I wanted. Now I'm tougher skinned and more determined than ever. I'm pledging all my time and effort to bringing the overwhelming sound of the band to the fans abroad who have responded enth usiastically. What I like is the fact that the fans abroad are responding soley to the songs. There has been no hype or promotion."

I next asked Joshua what the bands future plans were? "Our future plans include a world tour bringing the band to England, France, Germany, and Japan. But everything depends on the record labels. We're negotiating with several labels in every country. We've targeted for distribution the U.K., Belgium, Germany, France, Holland, Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland. The reaction has been phenomenal. They've made time for us, sometimes spending one to three hours to talk about the bands tunes and possibilities, a real change from the arrogant record execs in L.A. Some of the labels I am negotiating with have purse strings back to the U.S. and so the possibility of returning to America on the wings of a foreign subsidiary is intriguing to me."

Before wrapping up the interview I asked him to name his musical influences. He listed: DEEP PURPLE, MONTROSE, KANSAS and SCORPIONS, especially early SCOPRIONS. Also high on the list of musical mentors are Carlos Santana and Al Dimeola. So there you have it. Joshua promises the maximum show when he plays here, hopefully in early 1986. With luck, the negotiators will hammer out a deal that will allow METAL FORCES readers to get a listen to the "Surrender" album before the end of this year. Of course there will be a Japanese release of "Surrender" and we owe SMS Records a thanks for bringing this fiery band to the attention of myself and fellow rock fanatics.

METAL FORCES READERS POLL

Yes, once again it's time to put pen to paper in the third METAL FORCES READERS POLL. As you may remember it was METALLICA who maintained their popularity in last years poll by taking top spots in the Best Band, Best Live Band, Most Promising Band, Best Album ("Ride The Lightning"), Best Single/EP "Creeping Death"), Best Guitarist (Kirk Hammett) and Best Drummer (Lars Ulrich) categories. So how will they fare this year? Indeed can Dorothee Pesch (Best Female Singer), Ronnie James Dio (Best Male Singer), Steve Harris (Best Bassist) and Jon Lord (Best Keyboard Player) retain their titles? Well it's all up to you. Just list your top 3 nominations in order of preference in each of the categories listed below and send them to: METAL FORCES POLL '85, 17 LIVINGSTONE LINK, CHELLS, STEVENAGE, HERTS., SG2 OEP, ENGLAND, to reach us no later than January 31st, 1986. Results will appear in MF No. 17.

The categories are as follows:-

1. BEST ALBUM/MINI-LP, 2. BEST SINGLE/EP, 3. BEST BAND, 4. BEST LIVE BAND, 5. BEST GUITARIST, 6. BEST BASSIST, 7. BEST DRUMMER, 8. BEST KEYBOARD PLAYER, 9. BEST FEMALE SINGER, 10. BEST MALE SINGER, 11. BEST DEMO TAPE, 12. MOST PROMISING BAND/ARTISTE, 13. MOST RIDICULOUS THING IN METAL.

DEADLY NIGHTMARE

BERNARD DOE Speaks English To The

STORMTROOPERS OF DEATH

One of the most surprising bands to appear in '86 was STORMTROOPERS OF DEATH. The S.O.D. (as they're better known) project was the brainchild of ANTHRAX's guitarist Scott Ian and drummer Charlie Benante with an intention of being the ultimate cross between speed metal and hardcore punk.

The success of the band's album "Speak English Or Die" has also been met with a certain amount of controversy.

Having been released in the US by Megaforce Records; the band had a major deal with Island for Canada, which meant that MCA would ship the album into Europe for distribution. But MCA decided to ban the album and then Canadian record stores refused to stock "Speak English Or Die" because of the French/English speaking problem that exists in Canada.

With A&M also putting a ban on the album after seeing the contents "Speak English Or Die" finally made it into the European market thanks to CeesWessells and Roadrunner Records.

Well anyway I recently spoke to Scott Ian and vocalist Billy Milano about the controversy but began by asking how the whole S.O.D. concept came together? Scott: "Well when we were in the studio finishing off the new ANTHRAX album back in June we came up with the Sargent 'D' character thats on the album cover, and it was really like a cartoon type of thing. We had pictures of him hanging up all over the studio with little sayings like "Speak English Or Die" under them etc. And I thought that everyone likes this character so much, why not start writing some songs and make a project out of it, because we knew we would have some time off while we were shopping a deal for the ANTHRAX album.

"So we started writing music, and I called up Danny Lilker, the old ANTHRAX bass player and asked him if he wanted to do it with me and he said "yeah great". I asked Charlie our drummer if he wanted to play on it, and we knew Billy from the New York hardcore scene; hanging out down at CBGB's from like a year ago. That's more or less how the four of us came together.

"Me and Danny wrote all the material in the span of about 5 days while ANTHRAX were still in the studio. Then once ANTHRAX was done, we recorded it in just three days.

"It started out as being like a joke kind of thing and it's ended up being pretty big."

How serious is S.O.D as a long term project? Scott: "Well put it this way. Charlie and I have ANTHRAX, Danny has NUCLEAR ASSAULT and Billy has a band called METHOD OF DESTRUCTION, so we all have our first priority projects. But there will always be time for S.O.D., because I don't think any of us are gonna be at the point yet where we'll be busy 365 days of the year. I mean we're already planning on doing another album to be released in June '86 so yeah it's serious; we have like 16 songs written already for the new album. It's always gonna stay together because it's something we all feel pretty strongly about."

What about playing live gigs? Scott: "Well we've already done about seven gigs so far in the New York/New Jersy area, and turned down a gig with MOTORHEAD at the Ritz because we wouldn't open for them. But now S.O.D. will be put on the shelf for a while as ANTHRAX are now going out on the road."

Do you anticipate playing any gigs outside the East Coast? Scott: "Oh yeah, definately. We'll be going to the West Coast as soon as ANTHRAX come of the road whenever that may be?"

I noticed on the album that Charlie played lead guitar on one of the tracks - "United Forces". How did that come about? Scott: "Well obviously his main instrument is the drums, but he's a pretty good guitar player. We're gonna have a song on the new album where we all trade instruments;I'll be playing drums, Charlie's playing guitar, Billy's playing bass and Danny's gonna sing. We're probably gonna call it "The Confused Guys" or something like that (laughter)."

Most metal fans know all about ANTHRAX and Danny's band NUCLEAR ASSAULT. But what about you Billy what kind of background do you have? You used to be in a band called THE PSYCHOS right? "Yeah, I quit - they were terrible. But as Scott said I'm now in another band called METHOD OF DESTRUCTION. Plus I'm also running a label that's affiliated with Megaforce Records called Sargent 'D' Presents...."

Is that promoting hardcore bands? Billy: "Well they're crossover you know, they're gonna be like S.O.D. The CRUMSUCKERS will be the first band on the label."

Why do you think that there are so many punks getting into metal at the moment, and vice-versa as well? Billy: "Well I think heavy metal is expanding to where it should be expanding, so it's falling towards hardcore and hardcore is going up towards metal, but the hardcore bands that can't play are trying to crossover and are just dying. But who cares?"

Is it an aim with S.O.D. to try and unite hardcore and metal as one, instead of the thin line that exists between the two at present? Billy: "S.O.D. is the first crossover band. We play the instruments too, we don't just bang out noise. We are also like a social political band, we have messages that deal with everything."

Scott:"I think that the difference between S.O.D. and like some of the other bands who claim to be a hardcore/metal crossover is that lyrically a majority of them just sing about Satan and all that kinda crap all the time, whereas with S.O.D. the lyrics really mean something and in each song we try and get something across in it. Like all the new stuff we're writing is very satirical stuff, really ragging on about what's going on in the world at the moment.

"We have two new songs - one's called "The Death Metal Thing" and the other "Satan's Cronies" - and they're a total rag on all these garbage death metal bands

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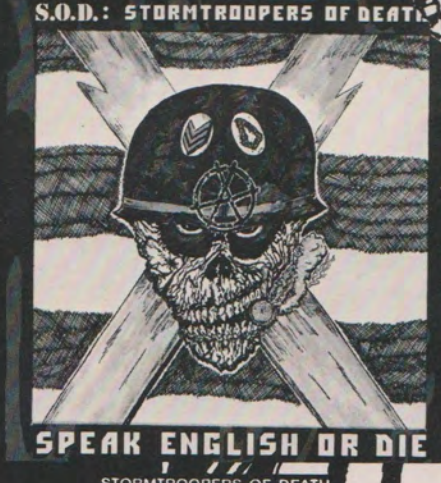

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who can't even play their instruments; they just bang out a total noise for six minutes and scream about satan."

But wouldn't you say that it's true too of the hardcore scene, that there's a lot of bands who can't play either? Scott: "Oh yeah it's the same thing. We have songs that deal with the hardcore side too. You see everyone has an attitude these days. There's hardcore bands in New York who think that heavy metal is no good and they look at us as rock stars or something - what's wrong with being a rock star? On the other side you get the metal fans who go around saying "What's all this punk shit". But then you get the people who are into both and that's why we're so good; we're just ragging on the people who don't understand."

Many tracks on the S.O.D. album are very short, especially like "Hey Gordy" (5 seconds) and "The Ballad Of Jimi Hendrix" (4 seconds). From someone who's into metal I can't really see the point of three and four second songs? Billy: "But that's the whole thing. They're pointless so they're great and fun to do live. We did what we wanted to do and if anyone doesn't want to listen to three second songs then they can go onto another song on the album. We don't care." Scott: "Yeah we do one second songs to piss people off purposely, because too many people take things so seriously. But the whole thing with S.O.D. is that we all have a sense of humour."

You mean a sick sense of humour like on "Tha Ballad Of Jimi Hendrix"? Scott: "Oh people love that song. When we do that live we end up doing it five times in a row (grand total of 20 seconds!) because the people go crazy screaming for us to do it again."

"But coming back to the attitude thing. A lot of the punk fanzines like "Maximum Rock'n'Roll" consider us a facist band because we called the album "Speak English Or Die". But the whole thing is supposed to be taken with a sense of humour. You'r supposed to laugh about it; not accuse us of being Nazi's".

But looking at your lyrics you seem to be going into two directions. Songs like "Fuck The Middle East" are supposed to be getting over a message, whereas on "Speak English Or Die" you say you're making a point but you're not serious about it? Scott: "Well we are serious about it but it's still funny. I mean it's just everyday life here in New York City; where you come into contact with people who are doing a certain job and should be able to communicate with you, but they can't even speak English.

"I mean it <u>is</u> serious and we believe in everything we write. But we don't really care what people think because Billy is bigger than they are (laughter)".

Personally I do find S.O.D. very humourous, in the same way as I appreciated THE DICTATORS back in the late seventies/early eighties and I much prefer them lyrically to say THE MENTORS whose vegetable attitude to sex gives them little scope of lasting beyond one album. However at the same time I can understand people being offended by the lyrical content of S.O.D., like Jimi Hendrix's family (!) and of course the French who with a few exceptions are a fairly sensitive race anyway. But S.O.D., indeed all forms of music, are there to be enjoyed by the people who like it. If you don't like it then don't listen to it.

As for the future: Well S.O.D. will have a track "Ram It Up" - which is a cover of a song by German band INFERNO - on the forthcoming Megaforce compilation "Megavault".

I also understand that the band may also be featured on the soundtrack of "Nightmare On Elm Street III". The "Nightmare On Elm Street" movies have taken the States by storm and feature Freddy Krueger whose like a modern day Frankenstein or Dracula that S.O.D. wrote a song about on their album.

Freddy Kruegar is played by actor Robert Englund who is probably better known by UK audiences at the moment as the wimp reptile Willie on the TV sci-fi series "V". Well by all accounts Robert Englund is a great fan of S.O.D. and has done publicity photos with the band as Freddy Kruegar - see our front cover - so S.O.D. appearing on the next "Nightmare On Elm Street III" soundtrack is a distinct possibility.

If you want to find out more about S.O.D and their merchandise write to: S.O.D., 233 Graff Ave., Bronx, NY 10465, USA.

WILL THE REAL BONJOVI PLEASE STAND UP?

JACK PONTI Mastermind Behind The BONJOVI/SURGIN Sound Explains His Indifference to KELV HELLRAZER

Well you lot out in blighty must be thinking that the headline to this interview is pretty libel stuff; well deep in my heart I believe it is true from the evidence available. But that aside I would still like to hear Jon Bonjovi's view of the story. Anyway I'm here to tell you about SURGIN and I'll let Jack explain the BONJOVI situation later. Let's go back a few months to when it all began. One Rusty Egan brings us at Shades, a tape to hear; now Rusty (ex-RICH KIDS/VISAGE) is hardly known for discovering HM acts so we took it all as a joke. So we play the tape and whadya know, "When Midnite Comes" blares through the system and a killer it is too. But the similarities to BONJOVI are in my mind already, and then "Shot Through The Heart" (a song on BONJOVI's debut) follows. That's it I thought, I gotta find out about this band, with the BONJOVI connection so strong in my mind I just knew there had to be some sort of controversy behind this band.

About a month later the LP actually hit the stores to a mixed reception; either it was a "BONJOVI rip-off" or "this is better than BONJOVI". I am definately convinced that the SURGIN effort is better than the two BONJOVI efforts and mainly due to vocalist Russell Arcara who has much more range to his voice. Let's not forget the rest of the guys in the band either because they're all fine musicians. Aside from guitarist Jack Ponti, you have drummer Tommy Swift, bassist Michael King and keyboardists John Capra and Gary Shapiro. So enough of the bull. Ladies and Gentlemen let me present to you Jack Ponti.

"I'm gonna give you the whole history Kelv with this BONJOVI thing as you've already mentioned his name about four times in one minute. About three years ago, Jon, myself, the drummer from SURGIN Tommy and another cat were all in a band together for three years called THE REST, so BONJOVI and SURGIN are actually splinters from that. Jon kind of went and signed with Polygram and I signed with EMI and we split off into different things. As far as I'm concerned BONJOVI is really Jon, I mean Richie and the other guys help out but Jon is the band. We still work together and see each other, I only spoke to him just a couple of days ago."

What is your reaction Jack to - that you are the originator of the BONJOVI sound? "In reality, If I were to play you some of the early stuff with Jon and I in THE REST, they were all my songs and that was the way that it continued. I don't think that our sound is quite the same, I took Jon out of high school, I met Jon when he was sixteen years old and literally put him in a band at that age. I think my particular situation with SURGIN is that the sound of my band is attributed to the band, it's not so much a vision of Jack Ponti, it's a unified band effort and I think the BONJOVI thing is a little bit different. If there is a rumour going around that I am the originator of the BONJOVI sound and Jon was influenced by me, then I would have to go along with it. I don't want to bad rap Jon or anything like that because Jon is a great friend of mine. I don't keep an eye on anything he does and I'm sure he doesn't keep an eye on what I do. My rehearsals, demos and everything I do is basically kept under cuff and when Jon and I do see each other it's on a social basis. It's not on a writing relationship, we haven't written a song together since "Shot Through The Heart".

"My demos were certainly in action a lot longer. I was signed at the same time Jon was, the only difference being that we initially started working with Roy Thomas Baker and I don't know if you know too much about Roy but he certainly keeps you doing demos until you get it right. I don't really think that we sound that much alike anymore, I think that Jon's music is getting heavier and were just playing and not giving a fuck!"

I then put it to Jack that as far as public opinion goes, there's no room for SURGIN while BONJOVI is making it. The music is more than similar it's virtually the same. I could have told people they were hearing demos for the third BONJOVI LP and they wouldn't have argued. "Our songwriting is definately different. Maybe it's because of the similar type production. I'm gonna do the second record entirely different, I'm in pre-production with it already, I don't like to be not working. I don't like to get caught with my pants down so to speak. We haven't rehearsed the first records since we finished it."

Has the band toured yet? "We're contemplating on going out, but again my attitude on going out is that it has to be for a real reason, where Jon did a little bit of a different thing, and went out and played every gig imaginable which I'm definately pro. I'm kind of thinking ahead for the second and third records. So

it makes sense if this record happend big enough in the States; we just released "Hands Of Time" as a single so if that record happens substancially then we will go out and tour. It definately has to be a proper tour because I definately ain't going back to that club scene. People who go to clubs don't wanna hear music; they wanna go out to get drunk and score. I'm a workaholic, I'd rather be in the studio than anywhere. So if there's an opportunity for me to ge back into the studio, I'm the first one there."

Jon Bonjovi makes a guest appearance on the LP. What did he think of your LP? "Jon does backing vocals on "Shot Through The Heart". That was just a bit of humour. Jon had just come back from Japan and we were in the studio and he stopped by and said "yeah I'll sing". So we put him on "Shot through..." I covered this song because I wasn't pleased with BONJOVI's version.

"Going back to the JOVI/ SURGIN comparison again. Jon and I have never discussed or even mentioned the similarities in our music. I think if Jon had not appeared on the LP and "Shot Through The Heart" had not appeared also, then the comparisons would not be so obvious. I think it's a psychological thing."

Tell me about the connections with Billy Squier and AEROSMITH? " Well Billy produced my first demos. As for the AEROSMITH connection. Well I've known Steven Tyler since I was twelve-years-old and he kind of corrupted me. I used to go to all the old AEROSMITH parties. He's been real good to the band as well. We've only played a couple of shows as a band and we've played with RATT and AEROSMITH at Steven's insistence. He's like an older brother type of thing." This scuffles all rumours that Jack was once a member of AEROSMITH (See MF14).

How did the other guys in SURGIN come about? "We've only been together about two years. As far as I'm concerned Russell's one of the best singers in Rock'n'Roll and his is the only sound I've ever heard that suits the SURGIN songs. The day we met, literally fifteen minutes later we were in the studio together. That's the honest to God truth. Probably Russell was the catalyst for putting the SURGIN project across. Russell was the first vocalist I worked with after Jon. I've never worked with anyone since. I think at one point, years ago, Russell was in PROPHET the band that was in your mag a couple of issues back, that was eons ago.

"Tommy, the drummer has been with me since the days of THE REST, so we are talking 1978. Of course we have two keyboard players as well. It's a real long story; we have one keyboard player who plays, whilst the other one takes his dick out at public functions! John Capra is a strange character. So he's there for an interesting character kind of addition. We do usually have John on stage with us, but sometimes he chooses to hang out with the audience instead. John's really brain damaged. You would enjoy him. He was arrested for public nudity and he was also done for running over 'Stop' signs. He was the original keyboard player but then when it got to the point where his psychosis took the best of him; then we had to bring in Gary Shapiro because John was a little bit uncontrollable in the studio. That's how Gary became the other member. We're at rehearsal now because we are in the studio next week and everyone's here except John. So that gives you an idea of where his mind is at. He's more at home taking his clothes off at the record company and doing hand stands on the desks. We always have to bail him out of jail. We keep him on the road with us to break up the monotony."

Finally, what are your plans for the second record? "Well for starters the sound is going to be so different; there are gonna be no BONJOVI comparisons. I don't think BONJOVI are gonna be capable of what we are gonna do on this second LP. Jon is a great singer; but even if Russell had pneumonia Jon still wouldn't have half Russell's range. Mick Sealey who was the keyboard player in THE REST with Jon and I is gonna be helping me out."

Finally after discussing the merits of Punky Meadows being a car washer I asked Jack what his influences were? " I grew up on AEROSMITH, DEEP PURPLE... you know all the same things most HM people grow up on. I used to live for DEEP PURPLE. I was crazy on them. Today, I don't listen to many records, because I work with music so much anyway, but when I do it's no particular type it just has to be good."

So after Jack putting his case down, I definately would say it's a case of SURGIN 1 BONJOVI 0. But I still wouldn't mind hearing Jon Bonjovi's version of the story.

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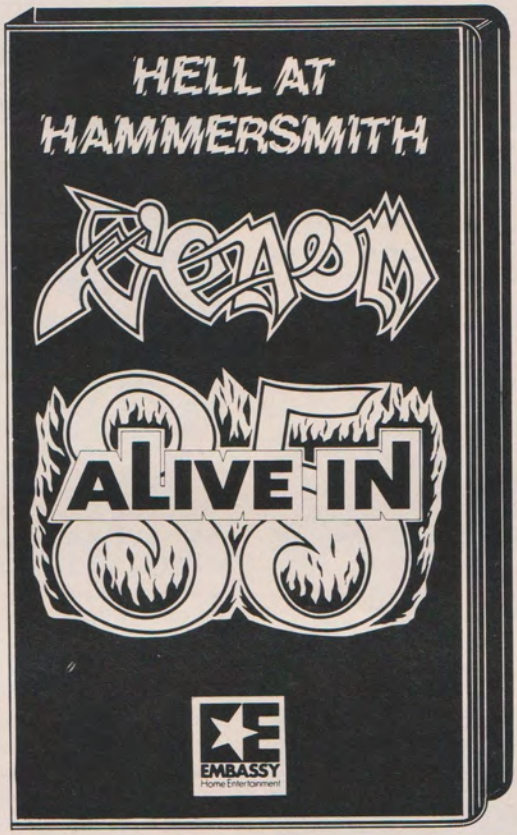

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DEMO-LITION

ASSAILANT

A Buffalo, New York band that sound like QUEENSRYCHE, believe it? They've been around since 1983 and are about to release the second demo, reviewed here as an EP. It's well played stuff, if at times, cliched fare.

ASSAILANT are Mark Stro (guitar), Jay Sharpe (bass), Ken Landon (guitar), Kenny Brand (drums) and, the man with the Geoff Tate like voice, Greg Reynard (vocals). To be honest they don't do a great deal for me, I dunno - they're not bad but I suppose the 'RYCHE comparison may have something to do with it. It's all a matter of taste so good luck to ASSAILANT in the quest for the metal grail.

All I can say is that the EP will be worth picking up whenever it's released, I'll certainly buy one for my collection. The five songs are "Forever Running", "Seizure Of Power" (the best track I feel), "Power Of The Hunter", "The Tale Of Ancalagon" and "In The Dark Of The Night". (Another one I liked). Write to: ASSAILANT, 20 Villa Moraine, Cheektowaga, NY, USA, 14225.

DAVE REYNOLDS

SHOCK

I laughed my head off the first time I put the SHOCK demo on - I thought they'd covered the CHARIOT classic (?!?) "When The Moon Shines", after hearing the initial riffs. Yeah, "Exocet" still reminds me of CHARIOT even now. Dare I say more? Then on came "Full Speed Ahead" which took me back to memories of the first HELLANBACH album "Now Hear This". It just sounded like 'em - especially Tony V's Jimmy Brash clone vocals.

The other two tracks sounded more original, and were both produced by FIST's Ron Chenier. For this mob operate out of Ontario, Canada. They're hoping to put out an album vefore long and claim they currently have a repertoire of 20 originals. For only a year together, that's not bad - and neither are the Chenier produced tracks "Slashing To Live" and "Sonic Assault" - especially the latter, which I suspect could go down as a bit of a classic in demo trading circles soon. Tough music. Worth checkin' out.

The band: Tony V - vocals/guitar; Mike Turcotte - drums; Kevin Monette - bass; John Tennant - guitar.

The address: SHOCK, 6319 Vorlage Dr., Orleans, Ontario, Canada K1C 2E4.

DAVE REYNOLDS

DIZZY BITCH

DIZZY BITCH are LA based glam metal with a line up consisting of Tim Tation (bass), Johnni Lust (drums) and Hondo Blackout (guitar and lead vocals). The band have an LP out imminently on the Azra label titled "In The Pink". Now whether this is a demo or the actual LP I don't exactly know, but from the sounds of things the band sound pretty promising (aside from the absolutely awful quality of the tape, due to a rushed copy).

The band I think definately have ALICE COOPER conitations - check out "Insane By Mother". Also worth a mention is the bands anthem "Dizzy Bitch". Don't you just love the ending line "I'm gonna run your arse out of town girl" cute huh! Elsewhere the band remind me slightly of WRATHCHILD.

I await the LP "In The Pink" one; to see if it's the dame tracks and two; to see if the production has improved because these guys could mean serious business with an apt production. Check 'em out. DIZZY BITCH, 4145 Norse Way, Long Beach, CA 90808, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

AXMINSTER

AXMINSTER has been playing gigs since January 1983. The band has opened for such acts as TWISTED SISTER, MOLLY HATCHET, LITA FORD and ALVIN LEE, and the band has gone down well with these acts fans. The band consists of:- Mike Lamm (drums/vocals), Steve Sera (lead vocals/guitar), Benni Farentino (lead guitar), Mike Mosca (guitar) and Danny Callan (bass), and the band have a 4-track demo available as well as a single "Rock And Roll Infection" which was produced by Hirsh Gardner of NEW ENGLAND.

Of the four cuts available: "Only A Stranger" is highly impressive. You've guessed it - melodic rock, the phasing guitar part three quarters of the way through the song comes off particularly well. The remaining three tracks are good, solid, catchy hard rock that mix with the good time attitude of early KISS, especially on the guitar orientated "Hold Me Closer". For the AOR ists of this world this is a highly recommended demo I would be very interested in hearing the Hirsh Gardner produced single as well.

Contact: AXMINSTER C/O 461 Albemarle Road, Newtonville, MA 02160, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

DIAMOND REXX

I first picked up on this band from a magazine sent to me by FIERCE HEART guitarist Rex Carroll. That was around the time of MF 9. Anyway I eventually contacted drummer Johnny Cattone and he rushed me this seven track power packed demo. Aside from Johnny, the band feature: Nasti Habits (vocals), David Paul Andre(bass) and Scot Davis (drums).

Believe it or not DIAMOND REXX border on "Death Metal", they aren't really thrash but they certainly have the power. They remind me quite a lot of METAL CHURCH and old ANGEL WITCH. At times they also sound like WITCH, but unlike WITCH the glam is only the image, there are no glam overtones in the music at all. My favourite numbers are the fast paced "Land Of The Damned" and the nearest thing REXX will ever come to commerciality. "Cuz I Wantcha", which featured on my play-list in MF 13. Elsewhere "Live It Up" raises eyebrows with its ecstatic guitar work and NWOBHM type riff.

Since WITCH are no longer DIAMOND REXX have stepped into the No. 1 spot for the glam/death battle. REXX could become big news with the right producer. Anyway the band have a track on a forthcoming compilation of Chicago bands, so I'll keep you posted.

Contact: DIAMOND REXX c/o Johnny Cottony, 305 East Dewey, North Lake, Illinois 60164, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

APOCALYPSE

Formed in January 1984 APOCALYPSE are a 5-piece Swiss band who have put together a highly impressive package for "Demolition" (other bands take note) - informative biography, an assortment of photos and, more importantly, a well produced quality demo.

The band consist of Roberto Pierdona (vocals), Julien Brocher and Pierre-Alain Zurcher (guitars), Jean-Claude Schneider (bass) and Andre Domenjoz (drums) and show an immense talent throughout the six tracks mixing modern day speed metal ("Back To The Fire" and "Fuck Off And Die") with the more traditional PRIEST/MAIDEN inspired sounds ("Demons Eyes" and "The Knight").

The instrumental "Darksword" emphasizes the great musicianship the band possess whilst "I Don't Tell You Lies" is for me the highlight of the demo being a superb deliverance of out and out thrash.

There's no doubt in my mind that given the right breaks, APOCALYPSE are gonna make their mark on the metal world in a big way. Check 'em out NOW! Write to: APOCALYPSE C/O Jean-Claude Schneider, Rte de Meyrin 12c, 1202 Geneve, SWITZERLAND.

BERNARD DOE

MESSIAH

Hardcore metal from Switzerland and promising stuff too. MESSIAH were formed in August '84 and have a current line-up of Tschosi (vocals/bass), Stony/Brogi (both guitars) and Jazzi (drums). The bands "Powerthrash" demo though was recorded without a bass player.

As demos go this is quite impressive, being very well produced and superbly packaged (other bands take note). The demo is split into two, a metal side and a hardcore side.

The metal side opens with "The Doom" an atmospheric narrated intro to the first track proper "Powerthrash", which is a heavy riffer that suffers a little by being so short. But "Metal March" is excellent, a simple but effective instrumental that is complimented by some great power riffing and lead work from Brogi.

"Space Invaders" is more in the SABBATH doom mould while "Future Aggressor" is again a little on the short side for my liking to be capable of holding any excitement.

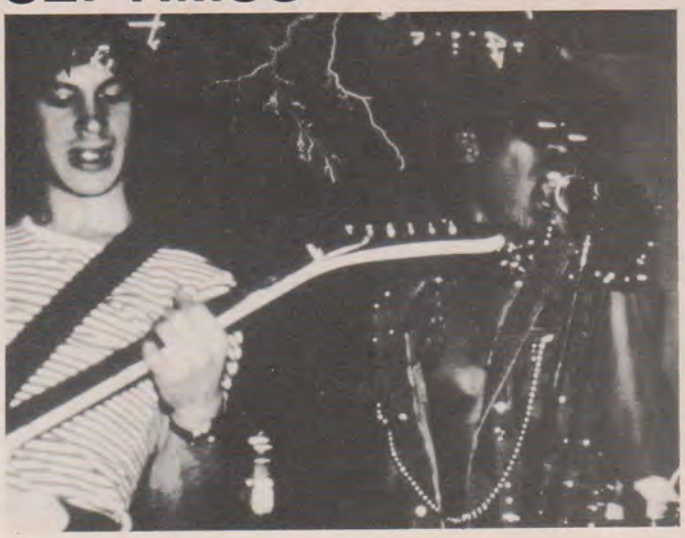
Onto the hardcore side and now we're talkin' total thrash as the likes of "Empire Of The Damned" and "Satan's Resurrection" are unleashed. "Total Maniac" is so unbelievably doomy that it almost sent me to sleep. But the "Anti-christ" is an ultimate hardcore thrasher that defies description.

MESSIAH have obviously still got a lot to learn, but their hearts are certainly in the right place and there's enough here to suggest that the band could cause an underground stir in '86.

The demo tape is available for £3.00 ($5.00 in the USA) and can be obtained from: MESSIAH Infernal Productions, Morgartenstr. 2, CH-6315, Oberageri, SWITZERLAND.

BERNARD DOE

SEPTIMUS



Poor old SEPTIMUS must be wondering whether we'd forgotten to review his demo he sent to us back in July! Well apologies are in order and to any other band still waiting. We're getting flooded with demo tapes every week, which obviously shows how popular this feature is.

Anyway SEPTIMUS is the brainchild of one Septimus A. Heslop, a slick NY dude who, in true Dan Beehler tradition bangs a mean drum and, er, sings.

Yeah, it's the singing that put Bernard Doe off and even I find Septimus' highly, uh, original high vocal style irritating - especially on "Dead Or Alive" which has a really good conceptual intro which reminds me of the scene in THE WARRIORS where The Riffs leader asks "Who Are The Warriors?!!" and some Richard Pryor piss-take of HM values!!! It's real funny when you first hear it, how serious does Septimus take it?

"Shout At The Lord" meanwhile is the best track with some great all round playin' and "Crime Lives At Your Side" is also excellent and benefits from a more subdued vocal style. Thumbs up to Septimus for what I found to be something pretty good and worth stickin' at but, hey, drop the high voice OK?! Incidentally guitars are by Joe Slick as is bass and Craig Strachan is on keyboards. INFO: B.J. IOVINO, 160 West 71st Street, Suite 8W, New York, NY 10023, USA

DAVE REYNOLDS

MAYHEM

This is the Portland, Oregon based MAYHEM that appeared on Metal Blade's "Metal Massacre VI" compilation. The band's current line-up reads: Nick Damis (vocals), Eric Olson (guitars), Cragi Lower (bass) and Steve Hanford (drums); and it was this line-up that recorded the "As The World Burns" demo.

Having failed to provide a track listing for the four-track demo makes it difficult to pin-point any particular tracks. But with the exception of the DIO like epic, opening cut, it's all promosing slices of power metal. One track in particular - "Lay Down The Law"(?) - is an absolute killer.

MAYHEM are currently shopping around for a record deal and on the strength of this, it shouldn't be too long before they catch the eye of one of the independent labels.

For more info write to: MAYHEM c/o Steve Hanford, 4134 N.E. Glisan, Portland, Oregon 97232, USA.

BERNARD DOE

GENOCIDE

This is the stuff to give Brian Slagel's new Death label wet dreams. GENOCIDE are one of the best thrash orientated punk bands I've ever set ears on. I had my doubts of course, but once the tape came crunching through my sound system I just knew MF was onto another winner here.

Now I have no idea as to how long this New Jersey group of delinquents have been setting down musical concrete, but they're great - also pretty sick! Read, if you can, the info on the boyz when you get hold of the demo package like I did. GENOCIDE - prepare for tonz of mail!

The band are fronted by the enigmatic Bobby Ebz (vocals) who teams up with Pete Powers (guitar), Bobb Sexxton (bass) and the masked madman - Skinbones (drums). The demo does however get off to a dodgy start 'cos, despite two powerful slices of punk induced mayhem in "Silent Hotel"and "Blackboard Jungle" the vocals let 'em down, not 'cos they're bad but because a) they're too rushed. b) you can't really understand a word Bobby's saying anyway.

However from then onwards the "Reign Of Terror" tape swings into serious hard-core action. F'instance "Blowjob"...., yeah that's what I said, you read it correctly, "Blowjob". This track is one of the best, hilarious things I've heard this year besides "Four F Club" by THE MENTORS! It's pretty down-tempo but whilst Ebz demands "Gimme A Blowjob" some young slut can actually be heard throughout the entire track doing just that - and what's more I'd wager it's for real too!!

What can be said after that?! Is the rest of the demo an, er, anti-climax?! Oh no! 'cos we've got "Pick Of The Litter" -all women are dogs; "Stillborn" - Sick; "Stay Out"- anarchic; the <u>really</u> sick "Brain Injured Children" which maybe horrible in lyrical content but musically is so redolent of THE PLASMATICS; and the anthemic "Live To Fuck - Fuck To Live" which WRATHCHILD could get into totally.

What more can I say? GENOCIDE are Kings of the punk metal age. Go get'em and remember who sent ya!

Contact: GENOCIDE Coffin Crew, 42 Harrison Place, Parlin, New Jersey 08859, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS

THE HUNTED

With the sad demise of that all-girl sensation TOUGH LOVE; again from Chicago, we have THE HUNTED, whose line-up is: Robyn Hunter (drums), Katrina Britt (guitars), Constance Lee Cummings (bass) and Monika Vandermun (vocals). Now from the 3-track demo that blasted its way to my tape deck, I would never say that THE HUNTED knocked me back the way that TOUGH LOVE did, but there is definative potential for THE HUNTED to fill that ever so vacant No. 1 all-girl band spot.

Now the first thing you learn about this band when "Dead-End Love" hits the deck is that Katrina Britt's guitar playing is hot, possibly even matching Gerre Edinger. Whilst vocalist Monika Vandermun has all the makings of a great vocalist; but the style in which she chooses to sing is a bit weird. But apart from that I think things could really go well for this band, becuase the tunes are great. Check out: "Fantasy" and "Close To Me" two thunderous rockers, highlighting some breathtaking axe work from Katrina Britt.

As long as THE HUNTED can stick together the future looks bright,unlike the RUDE GIRL's and TOUGH LOVE's of this world; but still in the sidelines we have: FELINE and LETHUR PANTEEZ, so all in all the female rock scene looks extremely healthy U.S.wise.

Contact: THE HUNTED, Jay B. Ross and Associates, 20 N. Clark St., STE 2600, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

GARGOYLE

This GARGOYLE hail from Elizabeth, New Jersey and shouldn't be confused with the band of the same name that appeared in these pages in MF13.

Having started out as a punk band in 1982, GARGOYLE are notorious by all accounts for destroying radio stations while on the air and posing as Born Again Christians in order to get shows at churches, at which they cause all kinds of mayhemic anarchy.

OK so we've established that GARGOYLE are tough mother fuckers, but what about the music? Well the bands 6-track demo "Unleashed" is quite impressive in places. Most of the songs are total thrashers with some superb guitar soloing and generally powerful vocals.

"Gargoyle"and "Bestial Bitch" are the choice cuts but the whole production suffers due to the distorted recording level. Still worth investigating for thrash fans. Contact GARGOYLE c/o Dennis Peterson, 625 N.Broad No.3A, Elizabeth, NJ 07207, USA.

BERNARD DOE

ANY BANDS WISHING TO BE INCLUDED IN DEMOLITION SHOULD SEND TAPE, PHOTO AND FULL BAND BIOGRAPHY TO:- METAL FORCES - DEMOLITION, 17 LIVINGSTONE LINK, CHELLS, STEVENAGE, HERTS., SG2 0EP, ENGLAND. ALSO IF DEMO IS AVAILABLE COMMERCIALLY, PLEASE GIVE RELEVANT DETAILS.

RIO

BORDER LINE METAL

DAVE REYNOLDS Takes a Trip To See RIO

There's no doubt that give or take the odd mistake, the people who populate the spacious Carnaby Street office of Music For Nations know what good music is all about. Don't you believe me? Take a look at the label's back catalogue. What do you find? Product from such magnificent acts as METALLICA, MERCYFUL FATE, HELSTAR, WENDY O'WILLIAMS, TKO, EXODUS and a whole host of others, including the first ever U.K. release by RATT.

Before I spout forth even more praise in the direction of MFN I'd better quit while the going's good lest you think Martin Hooker and Co. are filling my pockets full of used fivers or sending me on all expenses paid trips to see LOUDNESS in Los Angeles or TKO in Seattle - if only.

Seriously the above is nothing more than an introduction to my interview with MFN's new signings RIO. And the pats on backs are in order because this band just has to be The best U.K. answer to American pomp-pop metal so far (AIRRACE R.I.P.).

RIO is the brainchild of two likeable guys from Hertfordshire, that's Jon Neil and Steve Rodford. Whilst I commend MFN for signing the band it's not usually the kind of band the label is renowned for is it Steve? "No, up til now they've been specialising more in a heavy metal direction. I think we're something of a diversion for them. This is a presumption but maybe they see us as a way, I dunno, of getting bigger as a record company. We appeal to more people and we're opening the doors for other bands maybe similar to us that can do it as well".

Yeah, for a start your album cover is appealing to a wider market. But don't you think that there will be little girls who go and pick the album up thinking you're something like - and it pains me to even mention the name AAAGH! - like, uh, WHAM!? "Well hopefully there's something there for 'em 'cos it's not just about rock music it's about songs. We're very much into SONG writing than just riffs. The album starts with "Don't Wanna Be The Fool" which is the single. It's reasonably rockish which will appeal to everybody."

Before you think RIO are some kind of pretty boy pop band just go and grab yourselves a listen to the "Borderland" album and especially a track called "Shy Girl". But I personally find the best RIO song to be the one

that got left off the album and got stuffed on the 12" B-side of "Don't Wanna Be The Fool". Steve: "A lot of people have said that actually." It's a great deal more chunkierthan the rest of the album - kinda sounds like DEF LEPPARD too. "Oh I dunno 'cos "Borderland" and "State Of Emergency" are pretty heavy. We just considered "Casualty" was the weakest song at the time when we were mixing. We had to take one track off so "Casualty" was chosen".

OK, so you've got a great album out in Europe on MFN. Where do you go from here? Jon: "We've finalized a band line-up which is Martin Witik on drums, Ross Griggs on keyboards and Pat MacDonald on guitar."

Steve: "We're playing some club dates just to warm up the band after rehearsals. We've got Harvey Goldsmith's office working on getting a support tour. If we don't get the right tour it'd just be a waste of time for us. We need the right band with the right audience who would be interested in us rather than doing a support to some band whose audience isn't interested".

What sort of audience do you think would be intested in you? "The sort of people that like, say Bryan Adams - a cross section really. We're not exactly the same style as anybody else". And I'd say certainly a different sound to Bryan Adams! Steve continues, "Well if we went out with SAXON for example the audience would probably hate us." That's true. Look what happened to PRETTY MAIDS recently at a couple of dates on the SAXON tour. British audiences are very hard people to understand.

Jon: "I think our next album we're gonna go for a much more ballsier sound. More guitar orientated."

Steve: "We're not a virtuoso band that has an incredible guitar player or an incredible keyboard player. It's just the songs that are the important thing."

Do you think that's lacking with a lot of these other UK bands that go for an "American" sound? Steve: " I think a lot of people are very contrived. They go out of their way to sound like something. Our stuff is perfectly honest Dave, was not contrived it was just the way it came out. Everybody seems to say "Oh it sounds American". Quite why I don't know. Maybe it's down to influences I don't know, but it wasn't a conscious effort to sound American and break over there."

Why did you decide to do the "Borderland" album yoursleves and not with a proper line-up? Jon: "It wasn't really a decision, it was just the way we've worked for the last couple of years writing songs. We just work really well together and we can play the parts we write so there's no need to get anyone in.

Steve: "We didn't see there was any reason to change what we'd been doing as far as the demo's were concerned. The demo's got us the deal which were like masters themselves really so we thought why get people in and have to teach them the parts when we can just record them ourselves? We knew we'd have to get a band together after we'd finished anyway." Jon: "I think we managed to get a band feel in the tracks. I don't think it sounds just like two guys."

Well with all that out of the way I just had to ask why the duo had changed the band's name from BOMBAY to the more exotic RIO? They were actually signed to MFN as BOMBAY and even released a single last year on the labels sister company Food For Thought called "Breaking The Rules". Steve explained "We changed the name to RIO because out of desperation it was the only name we could think of that we liked. I mean, what's in a name anyway?" A DURAN DURAN song?! (laughs) "Well if you think of it some heavy bands - take RAINBOW - that's a dreadfull name - it's also a kiddies TV programme with Teddy Bear's in it!! But people forget the name and like the music. QUEEN's another one. I mean that's not a good name but you forget it 'cos the band are so fuckin' good. Anyway in the end we thought it didn't matter what we were called unless it's something ridiculous because it's the music that speaks for itself. We were known as BOMBAY for years but we suddenly found we couldn't use it because there's an American band that had been on MTV. They haven't got a deal or anything but because they'd been on TV they were 'known'".

So there you have the tale of two cities. Whether you decide to delve into the story further by grabbing a copy of "Borderland" is entirely up to you. It all depends on whether you can, like me, appreciate ALL aspects of the hard rock/heavy metal universe. And RIO are certainly living up to the album title. "Borderland" metal. I think Jon and Steve would agree with my sentiments.

PREPARE FOR BATTLE

Mention the name AVENGER and I guess a majority of British headbangers think of Neat Records "Killer Elite" mob. However there's a German band with the same moniker, who, in my opinion and I'm sure a lot of speed metal enthusiasts, deserve as much attention in these pages as their English counterparts. (See "Lead Weight" - Ed.)

Hailing from Herne, the band were formed in 1983 and through constant gigging and sheer hard work secured a recording contract with Wishbone Records in the summer of '84. Recorded in the following October and released in February '85, "Prayer Of Steel" the debut AVENGER album, showed the ingredients of a class modern metal band in the making; mixing speed metal with more controlled heavy riffs and avoided falling too deep into the extremities of total thrash.

Shortly after the recording of the album, guitarist Alf Meyerrather left the band for personal reasons. But AVENGER have now established a settled line-up of:- Peter "Peavey" Wagner (bass/vocals), Thomas Gruning/Jochen Scroeder (lead guitars) and Jorg "Skull" Michael (drums).

It was with Peavey that I recently spoke and began by asking about the album. How was it selling? "Very well. We're hoping to reach sales of over 10,000 very soon." So you're satisfied with the album then? "Well after recording an album you will always find something you could have done better. But yes, generally we're all satisfied with the outcome."

How about the lyrical content. Would you class yourself as a Black Metal band? "Oh no! We have never thought of ourselves as a Black Metal band, even with some satanical lyrics. You see there are so many different influences in our music. Like BLACK SABBATH, METALLICA, VENOM, JUDAS PRIEST and OZZY OSBOURNE."

What do you think of the fast growing metal scene in Germany at the moment? "In Germany there are many producers who are producing a whole mass of bands purely just to make money. Therefore so many bands are getting record deals, but in my opinion most of them just make noise and have no real talent."

How about your own music. What direction will future AVENGER material be taking? "We have a 12" EP out soon containing two studio and two live tracks. The studio tracks are "Depraved To Black" and "Down To The Bone" which are both extremely full speed metal. The live tracks are "Prayers Of Steel" and "Faster Than Hell". You've heard them on the album, but live they're even heavier!"

When can we expect a full length album? "Well hopefully in early '86. We'll still have the speed metal tracks plus the slower ultra heavies as well. We are also hoping to tour Europe in the spring."

Well I for one am certainly looking forward to seeing AVENGER live and have great expectations for their forthcoming album as well as the EP. Maybe this time all the metal mags - including METAL FORCES - that ignored "Prayer Of Steel" will give the band some deserved recognition. But until then, all of you who missed out on AVENGER's great debut are strongly advised to check out what you've been missing.

AVENGER Fan-Club: "The Adoration Army", Thomas PreuBler, Krayer StraBe 294, D-4300 Essen 13, WEST GERMANY.

KEN ANTHONY

DESTRUCTOR

METAL OVERDOSE

BERNARD DOE Prepares For Maximum Destruction

One of the most promising demos for me of the past twelve months has been the "Smash Your Skulls With Power" demo from Cleveland, Ohio's DESTRUCTOR. Not that the production was anything to write home about, in fact it was more like a rehearsal tape than a demo. But the intensity of sheer power that the band produced on that tape indicated to me that given the right guidance then DESTRUCTOR would soon be capable of thrashing alongside their more established counterparts like SLAYER, EXODUS and EXCITER.

Well you may remember that when I reviewed the band in "Demo-lition" (MF11) they had just signed to Auburn Records and were about to unleash their debut EP "Pounding Evil". However due to the fact that the band felt they had such a vast amount of quality material, it was agreed to release a full length album instead.

That album is entitled "Maximum Destruction" and should be available by the time you read this. Having heard the rough mixes I can confirm that expectations are high for a classic debut. But due to past experiences I'll reserve my judgement until I've heard the final product.

Anyway on the eve of the albums release, now seemed as good a time as any to speak to DESTRUCTOR's lead vocalist/guitarist Dave Overkill. First of all Dave, how did it all begin? "DESTRUCTOR was formed about 18 months ago by myself, Pat Rabid (guitar), Paul Warhead (bass) and a drummer who we've since replaced with Matt Flammable.

"Then 6 months ago we replaced Paul with Dave Holocaust, because he had a lot of problems in his own personal life and things didn't always work out. I mean, we needed someone who would turn up for practice all the time and put 100% effort into the band. Which unfortunately Paul wasn't."

DAVE OVERKILL Pic Ian Gilmore

Have DESTRUCTOR always played thrash metal. Indeed would you use the term thrash to describe your music? "In the beginning it was the NWOBHM that influenced us and bands like PRIEST, MAIDEN and the SCORPIONS too. But as we started to get better, metal started to progress and we just naturally started playing our songs faster and I guess yeah it's thrash metal,but we just like to call it heavy fuckin' metal".

The first photo I saw of the band had you wearing make-up. But you've dropped that haven't you? "Yeah, that's right. The reason being is that every magazine we see now has bands wearing make-up. But when we first started wearing the stuff it was really cool and we were really into it, because we were one of the first. But now it's such a common thing that we though fuck that, we'll just be ourselves."

When you sent me your first demo, I remember you making a point of stating that you were not a black metal band. Has it always been your intention to stay away from all the satanical overtones?

"Yeah, well some of the other guys in the band are really into black metal a lot. But it really bums me off that all the bands who write this satanic shit sound the same and sing about the same topic. We want to be as diverse as possible in our lyrical content; more like the hardcore punk bands who write about anything and everything. Things that are happening in the real world and not all this fantasy stuff."

You mention hardcore punk bands. Do you draw any influences from them? "Lyrically probably and in our attitudes for sure".

How did you get involved with Auburn Records? "Well we were getting a lot of exposure in Cleveland and Bill Peters, boss of Auburn, came to see us play and was really impressed. Also at the time there was no other thrash bands in Cleveland - most of the bands around then were real commercial. Anyway Bill has built up the confidence in what we are doing and we really feel that we are getting our satisfaction from the deal we have."

What is the Cleveland metal scene like at the moment? "Actually there's a lot of talent in Cleveland and a lot of people who want to get it together. But the club scene is so band that there's no clubs who want to deal with metal. They prefer all that other kind of bullshit. That's the thing that's hurting the whole Cleveland metal scene; the fact that there's no venues to play."

What type of metal bands are there in Cleveland now? "Well as I said at one point it was all commercial bands- everyone wanted to be popular sounding. But now with all this thrash that's coming out all over the world the trend is changing."

But don't you think that we're maybe getting over polluted with thrash bands and most of them sound the same? "Yes I do, and that's why we didn't want to fall into certain categories like a majority of the bands because we wanted to stand out; a little exhibition of doing something different."

What thrash bands then do you think have their own identity? "CELTIC FROST, SLAYER and EXODUS I think stand out the most. Both SLAYER and EXODUS have their own style and that's what we're trying to create.

"I also believe we have the ability to play more than just thrash; look what bands like METALLICA and ARMORED SAINT have done with it. We wouldn't necessarily want to be like them but what they have accomplished so far, is our ambition; get to be big and prove that we're not just thrash, but a heavy metal band and can do it all."

Then what musical direction do you see DESTRUCTOR taking in the future? "Well we always wanna be heavy and grinding. Down the line we might have a couple of songs that may be different, but never wimpy. But we don't sit down and say we wanna be like this or that; whatever we come up with we write it, and we don't write songs we don't use; if we don't think its gonna be a good song then we don't finish it."

Did you get much feedback from your demo "Smash Your Skulls....."? "Oh yeah. We've had a lot of mail from being in your magazine alone, as well as the feature in Kick Ass Monthly.

"Actually when we made that demo it was just an attempt at getting onto local college radio and now there's a couple of different versions of the demo about. But we never meant for the demo to go as far as it has. It's really taken us all by surprise!"

Well if you've yet to taste the sheer devastation of DESTRUCTOR then I'm sure you'll too be taken by surprise. Check out "Maximum Destruction" and write to the band at: DESTRUCTOR, 19490 Delaware Road, Euclid, Ohio, 44117, USA.

DESTRUCTOR

Pic Anastasia Pantsios

A NEAT RECORDS & MUSIC PUBLICATION

NO 3

LEAD WEIGHT

"Bringing Tomorrow's Metal Music Today"

***Win a FREE ALBUM.... Details Inside ***

INSIDE

PLUS

Venom Atrocity WAR FARE & More

LEAD WEIGHT

Here it is. Lead Weight No. 3, a little longer in coming than usual but bigger and better than its predecessors, hopefully fulfilling most of your requests. The feed-back has been amazing and I'd like to thank everyone who's written for their comments, observations and the odd compliment that's come this way! Keep the letters coming in, and let us know what YOU want to see in Lead Weight. I think most of you know the address by now (!) but if not, write either to me, John Tucker, Flat 6 Gilmore House, 113 Clapham Common Northside, London SW4, or direct to Neat Records at 71 High Street East, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 7RJ. I try to answer every letter I get but it can take a little while, so please be patient!

As this is the last Lead Weight of 1985, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all at Neat Records, to wish you all a Merry Metallic Christmas and a Happy 'N' Heavy New Year. See you in '86.

John Tucker.

AMERICA'S SEAL OF APPROVAL

Neat Records' President David Wood (left) and US Attorney Jules I. Kurz, get Presidential approval for Neat Records America Inc.

Win The Album of your choice in this FREE to enter competition

Want to win a free Neat album of your own choosing? Here's how. On the quiz page near the end of this edition of Lead Weight is a Cartoon depicting a youthful Venom Christmas frolic. All we want you to do is think up an apt and witty caption for the cartoon. Simple, isn't it! Send your caption, your name and address, and the title of the album you want if your entry is the winner to Neat Records at the above address. The closing date is January 31st 1986, and our panel of erudite judges (!) will come to a decision a couple of days later, popping the winner's prize in the post.

NEWS IN BRIEF

* NEAT BRINGS OUT THE BIG GUNS. . . . . Watch out for two new stunning album releases: Warfare's "Metal Anarchy" (Neat 1029) produced by Lemmy and the debut from Artillery (pictured right) entitled "Fear Of Tomorrow" (Neat 1030).

* Also new at Neat is Powerstation Mail Order. You can now get all Powerstation Records' albums, singles and cassettes from Neat Records Mail Order Service. Write direct for details.

* Bad news for Blitzkrieg fans. Any hopes the band had of going on the road to promote their debut album "A Time Of Changes" (Neat 1023) were dashed when doctors told vocalist Brian Ross to rest his voice for a considerable time or damage it irreparably. Consequently, all touring plans have been shelved for the time being, but the band hope to be out 'n' about early in '86.

* Shortly after Lead Weight No. 2 went to print, a communication which came from Mammath's management revealed that the band, who issued one single "Rock Me" (Neat 42) on Neat, have now unfortunately split up.

A big thank you to everyone who helped out on this issue of Lead Weight, including Paul Miller from "Forearm Smash" for the Atomkraft review, Joel Griggs of "Marshall Stack" for the Warfare idea, Pete Cronin for the photos, Henry Kaplansky, Laurent Cuyille and Paul Lawler for mega-support worldwide and last but not least the long-suffering H.M. Pussycat!

STOP PRESS

Neat No. 52 -12 Statetrooper 12" E.P. (Featuring Gary Barden) "She Got The Look" C/W "Veni, Vidi, Vinci" and "Set Fire To The Night" - (The sound of Rock on Neat) on tour with Blue Oyster Cult in U.K.

Artillery

Neat Records has beaten off quite a bit of competition to sign up ARTILLERY, Denmark's latest hot property. The band have recently completed their debut album, originally to be called "Baptism Of Fire" but now to be issued as "Fear Of Tomorrow".

The band have already established themselves in their native country and have been in existence since June 1982 when drummer Carsten Neilson met up with guitarist Jorgen Sandau. Musicians came and went until May 1983 when, with the addition of Michael Stytzer (guitar) Morten Stytzer (bass) and Per Onink (vocals), Artillery's first stable line-up was born. They describe their material at this time as being "Black Sabbath meets Accept" but began to develop their own sound and musical identity and, by the end of 1983, were starting work on their first demo.

During these sessions it became apparent that Per Onink was not the singer the band wanted, although he stayed with them until March 1984 when he was fired following an infamous gig which rapidly turned into a riot. Within a month he was replaced by Carsten Lohmann, and two demos - "Shellshock" and "Deeds Of Darkness" - were recorded in July and October 1984 respectively.

Because of the riot the band's gigs were limited, but those they did play, coupled with the two demos, earned them a loyal following and Artillery were described as sounding "almost like heart attack') what does a heart attack sound like? - Ed.).

In March 1985 Carsten Lohmann decided to persue a less strenuous career and was replaced by Flemming Ronsdorf. Another demo ("Fear Of Tomorrow") was recorded, this one being produced by Freddie Wolf of Evil, and then came what the band see as their greatest experience to date - supporting Slayer at a gig in Copenhagen.

Several labels were keen to get Artillery's name on the dotted line, but the band opted for Neat's deal. A spokesman for the band, with obvious delight, said:-

"We are really pleased about getting a deal with Neat Records - we thought it was impossible to get on Neat. The label has great reputation in the underground."

Watch this band - they will go far.

Metal City Metal City Metal City M

As mentioned briefly last issue, work has recently finished on **Metal City**, Neat's first full-length compilation video.

A mixture of fantasy and reality, **Metal City** features four bands - Venom, Warfare, Saracen and Avenger - performing in a variety of locations, set against a backdrop of the decaying ruins of a once proud city. It opens with the bands getting ready and the sets being prepared. Then Venom explode into life, ripping into "7 Gates of Hell" complete with laser effects. All the bands contribute three songs, a live version of "Witching Hour" and "Nightmare" completing Venom's offering.

Next up come Warfare with "Burning Up" performed in the studio. Raucous and rude, the band steamroller through the song with less subtlety than a piledriver on heat, and the nagging question "Is Evo Animal re-incarnated?" springs to mind as the maniac drummer lears once more at the camera.

"We Have Arrived" proclaim Saracen, although how they managed it with that driving is way beyond me! Still, they make it to the studio, attracting a crowd of naughty nubiles along the way, and blast out the powerful song from the " Change Of Heart" album. More dodgy car-capers arise when Avenger and company arrive at a breaker's yard. The Killer Elite scramble out of their vehicle just in time, "Under The Hammer" being an apt title to perform as cars get trashed. Metal Mayhem? You betcha!

By now, you'll probably be on the edge of your seat. This video isn't to be played to your Granny! Warfare bludgeon the senses with a couple more tracks from their repatoire and Saracen do the biz with "Infatuation" and "Cheating". Avenger finish their contribution to **Metal City** with a simple but effective storyline backing "Run For Your Life", another cut from the excellent "Killer Elite' album, which leads to yet more destruction as a jilted girlfriend gets her revenge. Venom's aforementioned "Nightmare" brings proceedings to a close.

No doubt about it, **Metal City** is the place to be; not only do you get four bands, twelve tracks, interesting links and masses of effects, you also get to see the Neat Crew hard at work. What more can you ask for?

To be released on Polygram Music Video No. VHF 0413062 BETA 0413064

Metal City Metal City Metal City M

FIX

Visions of the Past

Guitarist and founder member MAGNUS JAPL reveals all. . . . . .

"Axewitch was formed in July 1981 when guitarist Mikael Johansson and myself came together with Tommy Brage (bass), Mats Johansson (drums) and vocalist Anders Wallentoft. Tommy, Anders and I had previously played together in a local HM band called Hazy.

"As soon as we felt the band was ready we played some gigs in our home town Linkoping, and began to build up a loyal following of fans. Just over a year later, in November 1982, we decided the time was right to issue an album, and released a mini-album with the title "Pray For Metal". It came out early in 1983 and was well received both by fans and rock magazines all over the world; reaching number six in "Kerrang!'s" import chart.

"In April 1983 we signed a contract with Web Records in Stockholm. A few months later we went up to Stockholm and recorded our first full-length LP entitled "The Lord of Flies". This album put Axewitch in a leading position in heavy metal in Scandanavia, and the band began its first major tour of Sweden in December 1983. "The Lord Of The Flies" was released throughout Europe and also in Japan. As soon as the tour was over, we began writing songs for our second album".

Which brings us on to the "Visions Of The Past" album, released in Britain by Neat earlier this year (NEAT 1025).

"Visions. . . " was recorded at DB Studios in Stockholm in June 1984 and released in Scandanavia at the end of the year. Issued on license throughout Europe during 1985, the album is a no-nonsense metal affair, the standout cuts for me being the title track and "Heading For A Storm".

By the time "Visions Of The Past" had been issued by Neat, however, Axewitch's line up had undergone a considerable upheaval. "In April of this year three members of the band left, leaving just Anders Wallentoft and myself. So in June, when we went into the studios to start work on our third album, it was with three new members - Klas Wollberg, Magnus Hedin and Abbey.

"As for "Visions Of The Past", we think it's the best album the old line up recorded, the songs and the musicianship are much better than on the older albums. And we are very pleased to be at Neat Records because we think that it's the only real heavy metal record company in the U.K."

What more can we say!

Recommended Reading

As we've received loads of requests from fans, here is a list of a few good fanzines on the metal scene. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list by any means, but the magazines listed below often feature Neat bands and are particular favourites of mine.

FOREARM SMASH - 24 Southsea Terrace, Southsea, Hants. PO5 3AU England.
MARSHALL STACK - 52 The Charter Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9RD England.
METAL FORCES - 17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts, SG2 0EP England
METAL RENDEZ-VOUS - 1100 McClellan Ave, Suite 420, Monterey CA 93940, U.S.A.
SUCK CITY - PO Box 441183, Indianapolis, IN 46204, U.S.A.
THRASH - 40 Strathmere Place, Guelph, Ontario, N1H 5L8, Canada.

If you're interested in any of the above fanzines, please contact them at the address given. I've only got my own copies of each. Particularly good is ROCK BRIGADE from Brazil but be warned: it's written in Portuguese. Enterprising and educated fans can contact this fanzine c/o Eduardo De Souza, Bonadia, Caixa Postal 15094 - Cambuci, San Paulo/SP-CEP 01538, Brazil.

Happy reading!

LEAD WEIGHT TOP ALBUMS & SINGLES POLL

This is it, the first Neat Records Top Albums & Singles Poll. All I want you to do is list your top three favourite albums and singles released by Neat Records. Send your Top Threes to me at the London address given in the editorial, and the results will be published in the first Lead Weight of '86. Let's be hearing from you!

Judging from your letters this had been the one you'd all been waiting for – Venom's first full tour of Britain. Although not as extensive as many had hoped, with only one date arranged in Scotland and Wales and Northern Ireland excluded altogether due to financial complications, news of the ten-date tour brought fans scrambling for tickets.

But the World Possession Tour (Part Two) ran into problems long before the band got on the road when it was discovered that the planned massive pyrotechnic display would put audiences at risk in some of the smaller venues. As a result the band had the choice of either reducing the scale of the pyros or cancelling the shows altogether. Last minute attempts were made to reschedule the endangered dates in larger venues in the same, or neaby towns, but this only proved possible in Newcastle, the Mayfair gig being shifted to the much larger City Hall: six dates on the tour - at Ipswich, Nottingham, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Hanley - unfortunately had to be scrapped, reducing the tour to a shadow of its former self.

"We want to apologise to ticket holders in all the cancelled towns", commented Cronos. "However, I know that our fans understand that when Venom make a promise to spend £1000 per show on fireworks we keep that promise. The pyros are an integral part of our show and we would rather cancel dates than compromise our show in any way what-so-ever."

This was the second problem the band faced concerning their pyrotechnics display in as many weeks. Earlier in September Venom were booked to headline the Lorelei Festival in Germany, and stipulated that there should be £5000 of fireworks available to give the fans an evening to remember. On the afternoon of the festival, however, the band suddenly discovered that absolutely nothing had been provided for the show and immediately made plans to scrap their appearance and return to England. Before they could leave, Cronos, Mantas and Abaddon were surrounded by festival bouncers and armed police, and the situation looked decidedly nasty until the police chief insisted that the promoter meet his contractural obligations. and provide the fireworks immediately. As a result of this the band played a stunning set amongst a dazzling display of fireworks worth £7500.

As the smoke began to clear the crowd went wild : Venom's triumphant return to the stage of the Hammersmith Odeon, the final date of the British tour, some sixteen months after the Seventh Date of Hell, was greeted with frantic cheers and deafening applause.

The band opened with "Too Loud (For The Crowd)" and immediately it was clear that tonight there would be no let-up as the trio's aural assault rocked the balcony. "Black Metal" and "Die Hard" followed, two Venom classics that had the whole audience rocking wildly. The new single "Nightmare" slowed the tempo down slightly but the respite was brief as "Countess Bathory" blasted out of the massive P.A. system, and again the crowd went wild as the pyrotechnics near the front went off, bathing the band in an eerie, unearthly light. The lighting rig descended during "7 Gates Of Hell", casting ghostly shadows about the stage, and Mantas vanished into the gloom leaving Cronos the whole stage on which to torture his bass, the instrument howling more and more as the solo progressed. The opening notes to "Teacher's Pet" brought a massive roar from the crowd and the band tore into the song with neither subtelty nor compassion.

"This is the slow one off "Black Metal", shouted Cronos. "This is 'Buried Alive' ". You could almost hear the fingernails tearing at the coffin lid as the dry ice swirled around the demonic trio and the cries of desperation echoed around the Odeon. Another off "Black Metal" followed - "Don't Burn The Witch" - and the pace took off again until the apocalyptic 'Warhead", a showcase for Mantas' talents, gave the crowd time to breathe once more.

"Schitzo", "Satanachist" "Leave Me In Hell", classic followed classic; the crowd expected no quarter and none was given. Encores of "Rip Ride" and "Witching Hour", with the P.A. groaning and pyros exploding everywhere, brought the show to an end, and left the audience gazing in dazed submission. October 8th will never be the same again.

The next day Venom set off for Italy, where, joined by Atomkraft, the Continental leg of the tour kicked off in Rome. The tour then took in Germany, Denmark, Holland and France, cluminating in a show in Paris on November 4th. A highly successful tour for all concerned.

NEAT L.P. COLLECTION

VENOM
Neat 1005
Black Metal
Side Black
Black Metal
To Hell and Back
Buried Alive
Raise the Dead
Teachers Pet
Side Metal
Leave me in Hell
Sacrifice
Heavens on Fire
Countess Bathory
Dont Burn the Witch
At War with Satan (introduction)

RAVEN
Neat 1004
Wiped Out
Side One
Faster Than The Speed Of Light
Bring The Hammer Down
Fire Power
Read All About It
To The Limit/To The Top
Battle Zone
Side Two
Live At The Inferno
Star War
UXB
20/21
Hold Back The Fire
Chain Saw

VENOM
Neat 1002 LP
Welcome to Hell
Side One
Sons of Satan
Welcome to Hell
Schizo
Mayhem With Mercy
Poison
Live Like An Angel (Die Like A Devil)
Side Two
Witching Hour
One Thousand Days In Sodom
Angel Dust
In League With Satan
Red Light Fever

HELLANBACH
Neat 1006
Now Hear This
Dancin'
Times are getting harder
Look at me
All systems go
Maybe tomorrow
Motivated by desire
Taken by surprise
Let's get this show on the road
Kick It Out
All the way
Everybody wants to be a cat*

VENOM
Neat 1015
At War With Satan
Side One
At War With Satan
Side 2
Rip Ride
Genocide
Cry Wolf
Stand Up (And Be Counted)
Women, Leather and Hell
AAAAAARRGHH

HELLENBACH
Neat 1019 33.3 RPM
The Big... H
Side One
Beaten To The Bone
The Main Man
Nobody's Fool
Bandits Run
S.P.G.C.
Side Two
Saturday Night
Panic State O.D.
Daddy Dig Those CAts
When All Is Said And Done
Urban Paronoia

RAVEN
Neat 1011
All For One
Side One
Take Control
Mind over Metal
Sledgehammer Rock
All for One
Run Silent, Run Deep
Side Two
Hung Drawn & Quartered
Break the Chain
Take it Away
Seek & Destroy
Athletic Rock

TYSONDOG
Neat 1017
Beware Of The Dog
Side One
Hammerhead
Dog Soldiers
Demon
The Inquisitor
Dead Meat
Side Two
Painted Heroes
Voice From The Grave
Day Of The Butcher
In The End

RAVEN
Neat 1001
Rock Until You Drop
Side One
Hard Ride
Hell Patrol
Don't Need Your Money
Over The Top
39-40
For the Future
Side Two
Rock Until You Drop
Nobodys Hero
Hellraiser
Action
Lambs to the Slaughter
Tyrant of the Airways

DEDRINGER
Neat 1009
Second Arising
Side One
Rock Night
Going to the Movies
Sold Me Lonely
I'm On The Outside
Donna
Side Two
Comin' Out Fightin'
Throw Me The Line
Never Gonna Lose It
D.J. O.K.
The Eagle Never Falls

COURT IN THE ACT
Neat 1012
Side One
Into The Fire
Trial By Fire
Blades Of Steel
No Turning Back
Broken Treaties
Side Two
Break Free
Hunt You Down
The Ritual
Dark Side Of Innocence
Alone In The Dock

JAGUAR
Neat 1007
Power Games
Side One
Dutch Connection
Out Of Luck
The Fox
Master Game
No Lies
Run For Your Life
Side Two
Prisoner
Ain't No Fantasy
Rawdeal
Coldheart

FIST
Neat 1003
Back With A Vengeance
Side One
Turn The Hell On
S.S. Giro
Too Hot
Lost And Found
Side Two
The Feeling's Right
Dog Soldier
All I Can Do
Devil Rise
Going Wild Tonight

LEADWEIGHT
Neat 1000
H.M. Rock Compilation from Neat
Side One
Inquisitor – RAVEN
Cheetah – WHITE SPIRIT
Angel Dust – VENOM
S.S. Giro – AXE
Inferno – BLITZKRIEG
Noonday – ARAGORN
Side Two
Throwing In The Towel – FIST
Messiah – AXIS
Down The Road – BITCHES SIN
Flying High – WARRIOR
Soldiers of War – SATAN'S EMPIRE

CLOVEN HOOF
Neat 1013 33.3 r.p.m.
Side One
Cloven Hoof
Nightstalker
March Of The Damned
Gates Of Gehenna
Side Two
Crack The Whip
Laying Down The Law
Return Of The Passover

JESS COX
Neat 1010 33.3 r.p.m.
Third Step
Side One
One In A Million
Piece Of The Action
Fallen Hero
Two Time Loser
Ghosts
Side Two
Danger Signs
Bridges
Living Your Love (Off The Wall)
The Tunnel

METAL BATTLE
Neat 1014
The New Generation
Heavy Metal Sampler:
A Side
RAVEN – Mine Over Metal
ANVIL – Motormount
BATTLE AXE – Ready To Deliver
MERCYFUL FATE – Black Funeral
TANK – Laughing In The Face of Death
B Side
VENOM – Leave Me In Hell
JAGUAR – Run For Your Life
WITCHFYNDE – I'd Rather Go Wild
HELLANBACH – Dancin'
SATAN – Hunt You Down
SANTERS – Racing Time

RAVEN
Neat 1020
Live At The Inferno
Defcon 1
I Don't Need Your Money
Break The Chain
Hell Patrol
Live At The Inferno
Defcon 2
Crazy World
Let It Rip
I.G.A.R.B.O.
Wiped Out
Fire Power
Defcon 3
All For One
Forbidden Planet
Star War
Tyrant of the Airways/
Run Silent, Run Deep
Defcon 4
Intro/Live At The Inferno
Take Control
Mind Over Metal
Crash Bang Wallop!
Rock Until You Drop
Faster Than The Speed of Light

AVENGER
Neat 1018
Blood Sports
Side One
Enforcer
You'll Never Make Me (Alive)
Matriarch
Warfare
Side Two
On The Rocks
Rough Ride
Victims Of Force
Death Race 2000
Night Of The Jackal

WARFARE
Neat 1021
Pure Filth
Side One
Warning
Total Armageddon (Full Scale Attack)
This Machine Kills
Let The Show Go On
Breakout
Burn the Kings Road
Side Two
New Age of Total Warfare
Collision
Dance of the Dead
Limit Crescendo
Rose Petals Fall From Her Face
(Warfare & Venom)

GEORDIE
Neat 1008
No Sweat
Side One
No Sweat
This Time
Move Away
Time to Run
So You Lose Again
Side Two
Rock & Roll
Oh No!
Hungry
We Make It Rock

SARACEN
Neat 1016 AOR
Change of Heart
Side One
We Have Arrived
Love on Sight
Julie
Seabird
Meet Me at Midnight
Side Two
Jekyll & Hyde
Cheatin'
A Face in The Crowd
Hot Love
Bridge of Tears

SOME OF THE NEAT 12" SINGLES (See catalogue list for other titles)

VENOM
Neat 38 – (12")
Warhead
Side A
Warhead (Extended Version)
Lady Lust
Side B
Seven Gates of Hell

VENOM
Neat 43 (12") 45 r.p.m.
Manitou
Side One
Manitou
Side Two
Women
Dead Of The Night

WARFARE
Neat 45 (12") 45 rpm
Two Tribes (Metal Noise Mix)
Side One
Two Tribes
Side Two
Hell
Bown To Bits

RAVEN with UDO DIRKSCHNEIDER
Neat 29 (12") 45 r.p.m.
Break The Chain
Side One
Break The Chain
Side Two
Born To Be Wild
Inquisitor

SOME OF THE LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE NEAT L P COLLECTION

VENOM
NIGHTMARE
Side A
Nightmare
Side B
Satanachist

WARFARE
Neat 1029
"METAL ANARCHY"
Side 1
Electric Mayhem
Warfare
Death Vigilance
Wrecked Society
Side 2
Living For The Last Days
Disgrace
Military Shadow
Metal Anarchy
Psycho Express

ATOMKRAFT
Neat 1028

FUTURE WARRIORS

Side One
Future Warriors
Starchild
Dead Man's Hand
Total Metal

Side Two
Pour The Metal In
Death Valley/This Planet's Burning
Warzones
Burn In Hell
Heat And Pan

ARTILERY
Neat 1030
FEAR OF TOMORROW"
Side 1
Time Has Come
The Alfnighty
Show Your Hate
King, Thy Name is Slayer
Out Of The Sky
Side 2
Into The Universe
The Eternal War
Fear Of Tomorrow
Deeds of Darkness

VENOM
Neat 1024
POSSESSED

Side A
Powerdrive
Flytrap
Satanachist
Burn This Place
(To The Ground)
Harmony Dies
Possessed

Side B
Hellchild
Moonshine
Wing And A Prayer
Suffer Not The Children
Voyeur
Mystique
Too Loud
(For The Crowd)

PHASSLAYNE
Neat 1022
Cut It Up

Side One
Think It Over
Picture Me
Don't Walk Away
Run For Guns
Down And Out

Side Two
Minute Men
Get It Right
Feels On Wheels
King Creole
Who's Losing Now

BLITZKRIEG
Neat 1023
A Time Of Changes

Side One
Ragnarok/Inferno
Blitzkrieg
Pull The Trigger
Armageddon

Side Two
Hell To Pay
Vikings
A Time Of Changes
Saviour

AXE WITCH
Visions of the Past

Side One
Visions of the Past
Give Them Hell
Tonight
Hot Lady

Side Two
Stand Up
Heading for a Storm
Born in Hell
Time to Live

WISHBONE ASH
Neat 1027 (Rock)
Raw To The Bone

Side One
Cell Of Fame
People In Motion
Don't Cry
Love Is Blue
Long Live The Night

Side Two
Rocket In My Pocket
It's Only Love
Don't You Mess
Dreams
Perfect Timing

AVENGER
Neat 1026
Killer Elite

Side One
Revenge Attack
Run For Your Life
Brand of Torture
Steel on Steel
(Fight for the) Right To Rock

Side Two
Hard Times
Under The Hammer
Face To The Ground
Dangerous Games
Yesterdays Hero
M.M. & 5
Saw Mill

MORE NEAT SINGLES & E.P.'s

TYSONDOG
Neat 46 - 12
4 Track E.P.
Shoot to Kill
Changeling
Side Two
Hammerhead
Back to the Bullet

BLACK ROSE
Neat 48-12
'Nightmare E.P.'
Side One
Track One Nightmare
Track Two Need A Lot Of Lovin'
Side Two
Track One Rock Me Hard
Track Two Breakaway

WARFARE
Neat 49 - 12
Total Death E.P.
Side One
Metal Anarchy
Side Two
Rape
Burning Up
Destroy

SHE
Neat 50 - 12
Side One
Never Surrender
Side Two
Breaking Away
On My Way

ATOMKRAFT At the Marquee

On June 24th Atomkraft had the dubious honour of opening for Slayer's one off performance at the Marquee in London. The band suffered from a lousy sound system and, a short way into their set, they suddenly trashed their gear. I asked bassist/vocalist Tony Dolan - not called the demolition man for nothing! - exactly what happened that night:-

"The Marquee? Well, I'm sure you read Kerrang! 's review of us. It's all bulls**t! O.K., so we did three-and-a-half songs then trashed the gear but we had an excellent time and the kids loved it! So a few punks at the back hurled abuse but we never heard a thing - you can be sure that if I had done the axe wouldn't have been wasted on the stage.

The equipment failed because a fuse had blown in the main power supply apparantly, and no-one was at all helpful to point out the source to our crew. In fact, we were messed about from the start. They tried to make us cut our crew down, and said they wouldn't be allowed in without paying etc. We got no soundcheck, a bad monitor come-back and a lousy sound. But still we went out there, kicked ass and honestly, the kids went wild."

This is how Paul Miller of Forearm Smash reviewed the show for Lead Weight:

It's almost impossible to judge the band from just three numbers, but if those songs were - as I suspect they were - typical of an Atomkraft live blitz, then metal freaks watch out! The trio - bassist/vocalist Tony Dolan, ex Tysondog drummer Ged Wolf, and young Rob Mathew on guitar - are very much in the vein of fellow North-East heroes Venom, yet, refreshingly, deck themselves out in futuristic Metallic gear that nods at the vacant spot between Warrior and Mad Max. With looks slowly becoming more and more important in the current image-crazed music machine, it's to Atomkraft's credit that they've cultivated an appearance that does not leave them resembling either a batch of rejects from Billy Smart's Circus or a bunch of porcupines. On the music side, "Warzone" and "Total Metal" clearly spell out the band's direction, and it was a cryin' shame that they were forced into a serious curtailed set. which climaxed in the savage destruction of Tony's bass and Ged's bass drum meeting its maker courtesy of a sledgehammer. I guess that's what you'd call 'having a smashing time', eh?

AVENGER The Killer Elite

Avenger's long awaited second album "Killer Elite" (Neat 1026) was released in October and received some very good reviews, including a ten-star thumbs-up from Metal Forces. Bassist Mick Moore gave me the story behind the songs.

REVENGE ATTACK "Swiftly (vocalist Ian Davison Swift) came up with the introduction to this one, and I wrote the rest of the music. I've got to be honest, I didn't actually see the lyrics until I got a copy of the lyrics sheet, so I don't really know what all the songs are about. This one's about an air-raid isn't it!"

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE "This is a vampire song, a vampire searching for his next meal. He's after a bit of 'Blood Sports'!".

BRAND OF TORTURE "This is one of the songs I don't really get. It seems to be quite a popular song though, with a nice bit of guitar work from Greg."

STEEL ON STEEL "I like this song although I'm not too keen on the chorus personally. One about the Vikings, and having a go back at them."

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT (TO ROCK) "Nothing to do with KEEL, I'm very pleased with this song. A good heads-down anthmic song, the bands at the bottom looking up at the bands at the top and saying 'we can rock as good as you'. Yeah, I like this one.

HARD TIMES "Another Greg/Swifty composition, I don't know if Swifty's lyrics are based on a personal experience or what. It's sort of I've had enough of your cheating, "I'm going back to me mum".'

UNDER THE HAMMER "I wrote the music to this one and came up with the title, and Swifty came up with the lyrics.....It could be about bands being continually slagged off, even though they know they can make it. Everyone says you've got no chance and you're trying to turn the tables, and bring the hammer down on them."

FACE TO THE GROUND " This is meant to be catchy, and is one of the most popular songs on the album, I'm not over keen on it because I find it a bit repetitive to play, but who wants my opinion anyway!"

DANGEROUS GAMES "The thrill of danger, that's what this is about. Avenger meets Rambo! Fast living, playing dangerous games."

YESTERDAY'S HEROES "This is one of my favourites, I think Swifty sings this one very well. The lyrics are self-explanitory about how easily heroes are forgotten."

M.M. 85 "Another self explanitory one, this is a song for the thrashers. Those nice chaps from Warfare helped out on the chorus line 'Metal Mayhem', but I can't for the life of me remember how that came about! I was quite pleased with the bass line on this one."

SAWMILL ' The do-it-yourself divorce.....how to get rid of her indoors!"

26 Things You've Always Wanted to Know About Evo

. . . . But were afraid to ask!

With the new WARFARE album METAL ANARCHY (Neat 1029) just completed, vocalist/drummer EVO reveals all.

1. FAVOURITE FOOD: "Nothing in particular... I don't eat all that much really."
2. FAVOURITE DRINK: "Lager, brandy, Newcastle Brown, Vodka. Anything I can get my hands on"!
3. FAVOURITE VICE: (PREFERABLY LEGAL) : "Legal? That's ridiculous! How can a decent vice be legal? It's cliched, but it'll have to be Sex 'N' Drugs 'N' Rock 'N' Roll."
4. HOBBIES AND PASS-TIMES: "Drinking and getting drunk....Oh yes, and I like to go to fairgrounds as well."
5. FAVOURITE T.V. PROGRAMME: " 'Bagpuss', I'm really into that! and that new 'Adrian Mole' thing."
6. FAVOURITE FILMS: "That's easy; 'That'll Be The Day' with David Essex, and the Sex Pistols' 'Great Rock'N' Roll Swindle'."
7. FAVOURITE ACTORS: "They're all a load of crap! What I like is the Tasmanian Devils in the Warner Brothers' cartoons, like Bugs Bunny. The whole band loves them! Tasmanian Devils are the best in the world and whats more, music soothes them. Warfare would probably drive them crazy."
8. TOP TEN FAVOURITE ALBUMS: "In no particular order, I like "Ace of Spades" - Motorhead, 'Filth Hounds of Hades' - Tank, 'Never Mind The Bollocks' - Sex Pistols, 'Machine Gun Etiquette' - Damned, 'Ride The Lightening' - Metallica, 'Rattus Morvegicus' – Stranglers, 'Black Metal'- Venom, 'Vital Idol' - Billy Idol, 'Subterranean Jungle'- Ramones, and 'City Baby Attacked By Rats" - GBH."
9. MUSICIANS YOU MOST ADMIRE: " Buddy Rich and Ian Paice who are both damn good drummers, and Lemmy".
10. BEST PRODUCER YOU'VE WORKED WITH: "That's difficult, because I've worked with quite a few and they're all good. So I'll be a vain ba***rd and say myself for my work on the first single!"
11. FAVOURITE WARFARE TRACK: " 'Military Shadow' off the new album".
12. ALL TIME BEST EXPERIENCE: "That's hard to say..... Playing a good gig, like the one we did in Holland earlier this year".
13. MOST EMBARASSING EXPERIENCE: "Being 21 years old and being refused service in a pub which served me when I was 17!"
14. MOST FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE: "In 1980 I was involved in a coach crash in which five people died. I managed to dive through the coach window, but busted my head open on the motorway fencing. That was really frightening.....just after I got out a lorry ploughed into the side of the coach , near where I was sitting."
15. WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU WERE AT SCHOOL? " Anything that didn't mean conforming. . . . I don't know really.....Anything that wasn't 'nice' ".
16. WHAT WERE YOU BEST AT, AT SCHOOL? "Art and designing. That's the only thing I was good at!"
17. IF YOU WEREN'T A MUSICIAN, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE? "A showman in a travelling fair. I love the lights and the noise. In fact, when I was 16 I did it for a while.
18. IF YOU WEREN'T EVO, WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE? "I can't answer that 'cause I like being myself too much. I have a good time".
19. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE SUDDENLY GIVEN A VAST AMMOUNT OF MONEY? "Guess"!
20. WHAT'S YOUR IDEA OF A GOOD TIME? "That depends on my mood. It can be volume and drink (in excess) or just sitting and thinking. As we all know, the art of thinking is to think. Work it out for yourselves boys and girls."
21. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF RADIO? "The Rock Show is O.K., but the rest is a load of hyped nothing.
22. WHAT'S THE CRAZIEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE? "I used to hate chemistry at school, and one day I set the whole lab on fire. It took three fire engines to put the blaze out and I got suspended for a month then caned."
23. DO YOU HAVE ANY SOFT SPOTS? "Alcohol and music. Seriously! Actually, I like pets, dogs and cats and things, but don't print that".
24. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE CURRENT HEAVY METAL SCENE? "It's getting better, but I wish cock-rock bands would disappear and leave the scene to bands who aren't pretentious. I believe lyrics should mean something".
25. ANY FINAL COMMENTS: " Thanx to our fans , old and new, spread the Warfare message and keep the faith. Hope you like the new album. Here's the recipe: take a few cans, drink quickly, crank up the hi-fi and listen to the lyrics and furious screams that burn off your stylus. This is Metal Anarchy".
26. FINALLY, WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS? "The new album distributed world-wide, and to play as many gigs as possible (if anyone will have us)!"

MICK MOORE of Avenger *(Pic by John Tucker)*

ATOMKRAFT (Right to Left) Ged Wolfe, Tony Dolan and Rob Mathew *(Pic by Pete Cronin)*

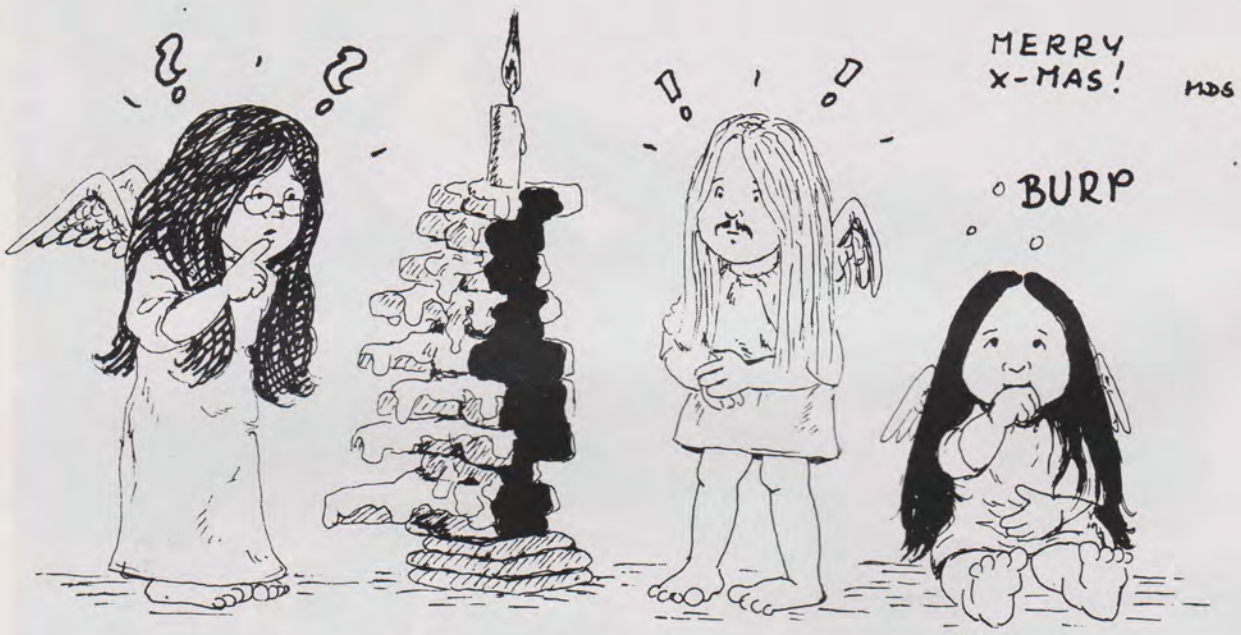
QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ

Picture the scene: it's Christmas Day, you've eaten and drunk all you can manage, your mum's new Barry Manilow album is defiling the stereo your kid brother is terrorising the cat with his intergalactic death ray, and you're bored, bored, bored.....

Here's the answer! Break out a pen and, without rooting through your record collection, have a go at these questions. They are all Neat related, and some aren't as easy as they look.
There aren't any prizes, but it'll be good for your ego if you get them all right! The answers are cunningly concealed at the foot of the page.

SCORES:- 15 - 20 Brilliant. Really Neat. Take a bow.
10 - 14 Not bad, but there's plenty of room for improvement.
5 - 9 Hmm....Someone's not doing their homework.
Less than 5 You'd better go out and buy some records.

1. What was the name of Neat's first compilation album/cassette?
2. What was the Blitzkrieg track on that compilation, and why was it different from the other tracks?
3. Name the two songs on the B-side of 'Don't Touch Me There' by the Tygers of Pan Tang.
4. Who was the White Spirit guitarist who ended up in (Double) Trouble?
5. Name Venom's Black Metal Lady.
6. What bird flew across the Atlantic?
7. This band issued one single "Lady" on a Neat subsidiary called Metal Minded Records. Who is it?
8. Who 'arrived" in 1984, but had a change of heart in 1985?
9. Which Scottish city released a single in 1984?
10. Name Evo's comrades-in-arms.
11. What was the B-side of Venom's first single?
12. What was Avenger's first Neat vinyl appearance?
13. Name the 'explosive' artists who went back on the road.
14. What was the first Neat picture disc single, and who recorded it?
15. Name Valhalla's man.
16. What two songs made up Dedringer's double A-side single?
17. Raven's first album "Rock Until You Drop" featured two Sweet songs. What are they?
18. Bad odds for Jess Cox?
19. Name Tysondong's shark.
20. Which piece of pop pap did Warfare record a cover version of?



Invent a caption for this cartoon and win the Neat album of your choice - see page 2.

ANSWERS

1. Lead Weight (of course!) 2. Inferno, which was a'live' take. 3. Burnin! Up & Bad Times. 4 Janick Gers. 5 Countess Bathory. 6 Raven. 7. Axis. 8. Saracen. 9. Glasgow. 10. Gunner & Falken, 11 Live Like and Angel - Die Like a Devil. 12. Hot 'N' Heavy Express, on the One Take, No Dubs E.P. 13. TNT. 14. Born To Be Wild by Raven & Udo. 15. Jack. 16. Hot Lady/Hot Licks. 17. Hellraiser & Zion. 18. One In A Million. 19. Hammerhead. 20. Two Tribes.

Venom
adidas

Singles

NEAT 05	**White Spirit;** Back to the Grind c/w Cheetah
NEAT 06	**Raven;** Don't need your money c/w Wiped Out
NEAT 08	**Venom;** In League with Satan c/w Live like an Angel
NEAT 09	**Bitches Sin;** Always Ready for Love c/w Sign of the Times
NEAT 11	**Raven;** Hard Ride c/w Crazy World
NEAT 12	**Raw Deal;** Lonewolf c/w Take the Sky
NEAT 13	**Venom;** Blood Lust c/w In Nomine Satanas
NEAT 14	**Steel;** Rock Out c/w All Systems Go
NEAT 15 (12")	**Raven;** Crash, Bang, Wallop / Firepower / Run Them Down / Rock Hard
NEAT 16	**Jaguar;** Axe Crazy c/w War Machine
NEAT 17	**Heavy Pettin';** Roll the Dice c/w Love x Love
NEAT 18	**Dedringer;** Hot Lady / Hot Licks (Double A)
NEAT 19	**Crucifixion;** On the Run c/w Take it or Leave it
NEAT 20	**Warrior (live);** Dead when it comes to Love c/w Kansas City / Stab you in the Back
NEAT 21	**Fist;** The Wanderer c/w Too Hot
NEAT 22	**Valhalla;** Comin' Home c/w Through with you
NEAT 23	**Sabre;** Miracle Man c/w On the Loose
NEAT 24	**Persian Risk;** Ridin' High c/w Hurt You
NEAT 25 (12")	**4 Track Live EP; Hellanbach / Avenger / Black Rose / Alien** One Take No Dubs
NEAT 26	**Jess Cox;** Bridges c/w Check it Out
NEAT 27	**Venom;** Die Hard c/w Acid Queen
NEAT 27 (12")	**Venom;** Die Hard c/w Acid Queen & Bursting Out
NEAT 28	**Raven;** Break the Chain c/w The Ballad of Marshall Stack
NEAT 29 ‡	**Raven & Udo Dirkschnider;** Born to be Wild c/w Inquisitor
NEAT 29 (12")	**Raven & Udo Dirkschnider;** Break the Chain c/w Born to be Wild & Inquisitor
NEAT 30	**Saracen;** We have arrived c/w Face in the Crowd
NEAT 31	**Avenger;** Too Wild To Tame c/w On the Rocks
NEAT 32	**Tobruk;** Wild on the Run c/w The show must go on
NEAT 33	**Tysondog;** Eat the Rich c/w Dead Meat
NEAT 34	**Emerson;** Something Special c/w Stars in Hollywood
NEAT 35	**Jess Cox;** One in a Million c/w Bad Time Girl
NEAT 36	**Valhalla;** Still in love with you / Jack (Double 'A')
NEAT 37 (12")	**Crucifixion;** Green Eyes c/w Moonrising & Jailbait
NEAT 38	**Venom;** Warhead c/w Lady Lust
NEAT 38 (12")	**Venom;** Warhead c/w Lady Lust & Seven Gates of Hell
NEAT 39	**T.N.T.** Back on the Road c/w Rockin' the Night
NEAT 40	**Glasgow;** Stranded c/w Heat of the Night
NEAT 41	**Warfare;** Noise, Filth & Fury EP
NEAT 42	**Mammath;** Rock Me c/w Rough 'N' Ready
NEAT 43 ‡	**Venom;** Manitou c/w Woman
NEAT 43 (12")	**Venom;** Manitou c/w Dead Of The Night & Woman

Singles Continued

NEAT 44 (12")	**Lone Wolf;** Nobody's Move c/w Town To Town & Leave Me Blind
NEAT 45 (12")	**Warfare;** Two Tribes c/w Hell & Blown To Bits
NEAT 46 12	**Tysondog;** 4 Track EP
NEAT 47 ‡	**Venom;** Nightmare, Satanachist
NEAT 47 12	**Venom;** Nightmare, Satanachist, F.O.A.D.
NEAT 48 12	**Black Rose;** Nightmare, Need a Lot of Lovin', Rock Me Hard, Breakaway
NEAT 49 12	**Warfare; Total Death EP –** Metal Anarchy, Rape, Burning Up, Destroy
NEAT 50	**She;** Never Surrender, Breaking Away
NEAT 50 12	**She;** Never Surrender, Breaking Away, I'm On My Way.
NEAT 52	Statetrooper She Got The Look c/w Veni, Vidi, Vinci
NEAT 52 12	Statetrooper She Got The Look c/w Veni, Vidi, Vinci + Set Fire To The Night
NEAT 53 12	Venom)Live) Witching Hour c/w Teacher's Pet, Poison

Albums

NEAT 1001	**Raven;** Rock until you Drop
NEAT 1002	**Venom;** Welcome to Hell
NEAT 1003	**Fist;** Back with a Vengeance
NEAT 1004	**Raven;** Wiped Out
NEAT 1005	**Venom;** Black Metal
NEAT 1006	**Hellanbach;** Now hear this
NEAT 1007	**Jaguar;** Power Games
NEAT 1008	**Geordie;** No Sweat
NEAT 1009	**Dedringer;** Second Arising
NEAT 1010	**Jess Cox Band;** Third Step
NEAT 1011	**Raven;** All For One
NEAT 1012	**Satan;** Court in the Act
NEAT 1013 *	**Cloven Hoof;** Cloven Hoof
NEAT 1014	**Metal Battle;** Various – Compilation
NEAT 1015 *	**Venom;** At War with Satan
NEAT 1016	**Saracen** – Change Of Heart
NEAT 1017 *	**Tysondog;** Beware Of The Dog
NEAT 1018	**Avenger;** Blood Sports
NEAT 1019	**Hellanbach;** The Big 'H'
NEAT 1020	**Raven**
NEAT 1021 *	**Warfare;** Pure Filth
NEAT 1022	**Phasslayne;** Cut It Up
NEAT 1023	**Blitzkrieg;** A Time of Changes
NEAT 1024 *‡	**Venom;** Possessed
NEAT 1025	**Axewitch;** Visions of the Past
NEAT 1026	**Avenger;** Killer Elete
NEAT 1027 *	**Wishbone Ash;** Raw to the Bone
NEAT 1028	**Atomkraft;** Future Warriors
NEAT 1029 *	**Warfare;** Metal Anarchy
NEAT 1030	Artillery Fear of Towmorrow
NEAT 1031	Tyson Dog Crimes of Insanity
NEAT 1032 *	Venom - New Album

** Available on CASSETTE ALSO (Example: NEAT C10--)*
‡ Available as a PICTURE DISC (Example: NEAT P10--)

Cassettes

NEAT C2001	**Various;** '60 Minute Plus HM', Compilation Cassette; (16 Bands included)
NEAT C100	**Various;** 'Lead Weight Cassette', Compilation Cassette; (12 Bands included)

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ANGEL

SECOND APPARITION

Long Time . . . No See! But Now They're Back On Earth

DAVE REYNOLDS Ask Arc ANGEL PUNKY MEADOWS Why?

"I think at some point it would be nice for us to get back together again and I'm sure at some point we will." FRANK DIMINO, METAL FORCES 10.

Welcome back ANGELophiles to this live without a net show that never ends. ANGEL back in MF? What the fuck for? Is it a miracle? Can it really be true? Am I making all this up?

Yes; They've reformed; kinda; yes; no!

Me - well yours truly, number one ANGEL fan was stunned for a few, sharp seconds - then delighted that the band I've spent literally half my life following had decided to have another shot at major rock success.

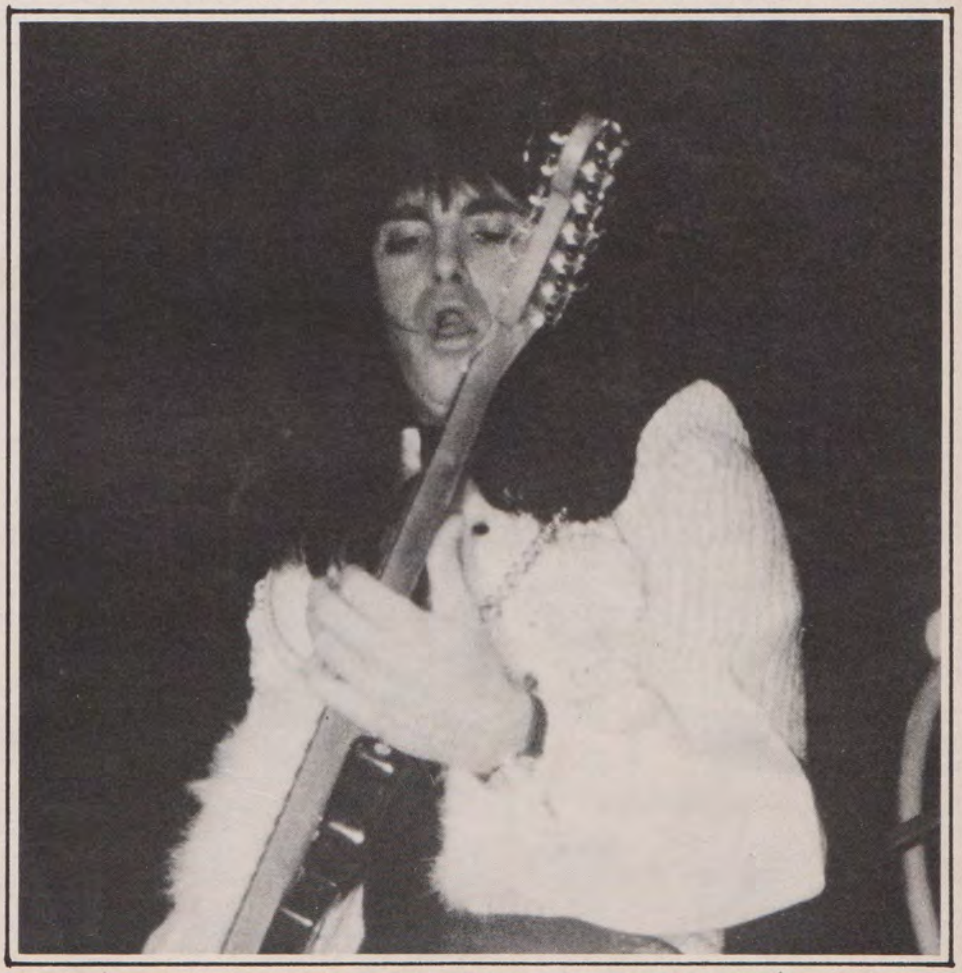
Now not wishing to put down the other people associated with the ANGEL name as band members, particuarly keyboards maestro Greg Giuffria, who put the band's name back into the technicolour rock scene by way of his new band GIUFFRIA (see MF13 for interview), it's the axe-grindin; bubble gum chewin' Maryland 'Glamour Boy' Punky Meadows who is the most recognizable as the epitomy of all that ANGEL stood and indeed, stands for. It's the same Punky Meadows if a few years older, that's been the instigator for this reformation that also includes Frank Dimino (vocals), Barry Brandt (drums) and Felix Robinson (bass). Giuffria of course is sticking with his new baby, currently putting the finishing touches to a second album.

So what suddenly brought the four of you back together Punky? "Well it all started when Felix came to New York where I live now and one day we were sitting talking and we discussed putting the band back together, so we gave Frank and Barry a call. They were both keen on the idea so we're about to go to California to start recording."

Felix was in WHITE LION for a while. Why did he leave? "Felix was really disillusioned with WHITE LION. He felt he was carrying a load with that band. He actually was instrumental in getting them the deal with Elektra."

Did you know THE GODZ have reformed too? (albeit with only one original member) "Really? That's great."

Do you remember the show in San Diego in 1978 when they played support? "Oh yeah, the riot! THE GODZ were carrying their guns about with them during that. That was a wild show!" Certainly was. Seems San Diego's Sports Arena's bouncers didn't take too kindly to ANGEL's pretty boy image. Seems the bouncers got well out of order with the crowd and ANGEL ended up fighting 'em. Punky poured beer all over 'em from the stage then hit one with a bottle over the head. Frank Dimino, Steve Brooks and Robin Meadows (ANGEL roadies)



were all on the floor punching it out with 'em. The house lights were left on for the rest of the show, after which THE GODZ surrounded ANGEL and uttered the immortal lines "To get to ANGEL you'll have to go through THE GODZ!!".

Anyway is this a long term project or just a one-off thingyou're doing now? "Oh definately a long term project. You see ANGEL never really broke up. We were in limbo for a year after Casablanca went down waiting to see what would happen. Eventually we got involved with different projects which put ANGEL on hold a while longer. We've always had good chemistry in this band and it was never boring. We definately didn't split." That's true because it was never officially announced. But do you think Gregg will mind you using the name again? More to the point does he know? "Gregg wanted to use the name for what turned out to be his GIUFFRIA project but we got together and out voted him. It was a majority decision. ANGEL was always a partnership. Actually I played on the tape that got Gregg the deal with Camel Records along with David Eisley. But I don't really wanna talk about Gregg, after all why should I give him free press?!"

We both laugh. Why indeed. So who are you gonna recruit as the new keyboard player? "We'll be using Garri Brandon who used to be in WHITE SISTER. He's a good friend of ours and a big ANGEL fan. He looks great too, so he'll be working with us in California once he comes off tour with JOHN PARR.

Actually this liason may not occur. At the time of writing I've been informed by other sources that Brandon will be going straight into the studios to work on John Parr's second album. We'll have to wait and see.

So what have you personally been up to for the past five years? "Well I worked with Gregg, Ricky Phillips and Fergie Frederiksen on demo's. We got a lot of label interest but never signed any contracts although we did have a deal with A&M at one point" (Possibly the "Legend" project??) That tape had the original versions of "Whips" and "Trouble-shooter", both songs have since been covered by (the next Mega-band) WHITE SISTER. Actually I seem to remeber Lita Ford once telling me that some ex-members of ANGEL had got a deal with A&M. Funny that. "After that I worked with Gregg and David Eisley t hen moved here to New York. Leber/Krebs called me up looking for a guitarist. They wanted to add another dimension to Michael Bolton's band (This was after Bruce Kulick had joined KISS). I considered writing with Michael but I was thinking about ANGEL all along and Michael Bolton is really another type of artist altogether".

I'd heard from various sources that you were really disillusioned with music and had moved back to Maryland. "Ha! Ha! Who told you that? That's not true. I know whenever anyone disappears for a while all sorts of rumours get spread about due to the mystery that surrounds people and that's happened to me. I've never been disillusioned with music, especially Heavy Rock. I love it. Music's the only thing I could work in and I'm real happy. I was in Maryland a few weeks because my father had died and I was sorting out property and stuff."

What do you think of your brother Timmy's guitar playing? "I remember teaching him a few licks when he was twelve or thirteen. He's a really good player. His band are in California right now recording an album."

Quick commercial break here. Thrash fans. If you've read this far watch out for the DEUCE album due on Torrid Records. It's gonna be a killer. Timmy Meadows and Tom Gattis play up a storm on guitar. Buy!

I feel there's one helluva market out there for DEUCE, but is there still for ANGEL? "Oh yes I think so. The great thing about ANGEL is that we're all equal in musicianship, we were a great live band and we all thrived off the competition we gave each other. We all put a lot into that band. I like a band that has input."

So what direction will the new stuff be in? In the style of the first two albums or the "Sinful" era? "Oh it-'ll be interesting. Geared towards kick-ass, heavy tunes. One of the songs I've written is called "Got Away With Murder". (And could possibly be a QUIET RIOTish anthem called "Rock Hard"??) Actually I lóve our earlier stuff. We were more in control then, but Casablanca and the management were always telling us what to do, I don't think anyone whould put up with that."

I understand you're not going to do the white clothing thing? "No I don't think so. It's not something original anymore, everybody's doing it now. Actually we haven't discussed any stage concepts yet - we're too excited about the music, but it'll be really something. Barry Levine will be working on that."

And it looks like the UK and Europe will be the first to see the new ANGEL assault. Why didn't ANGEL come over to Europe before? "That was down to bad management. Our show cost so much that it was decided to concentrate on the United States and break there first. I've never been to England so I'm dying to visit soon."

I've heard that Phonogram in the U.S. have got quite a bit of unreleased material in their vaults they got when they took over Casablanca in 1980 - including I hear the version of "You Really Got Me" that Gregg Giuffria totally denied, existed. Aren't you worried that they might try and cash-in by re-releasing all your old albums? "Well I guess we'll just have to protect ourselves with good lawyers!!"

I personally can't stand things being re-released. I find the whole enjoyment of collecting records is tracking down rare items. I mean I got hold of your BUX and CHERRY PEOPLE albums that way. "Yeah, I agree it's really nice to find out of print albums. I can't believe you have the CHERRY PEOPLE album! I think we tried to be THE MONKEES or something. I guess I was a businessman even when I was a kid! I was really angry when that BUX LP came out. Mickie Jones and I aren't on the cover of that record. Ralph Morman, who was the singer, and I are still very good friends, he's a really good guy. He was in SAVOY BROWN for a while."

At present ANGEL should be rehearsing material - most of it written by Meadows - for their 'debut' offering '85/6 style. This should take the form of a mini-LP full of material Punky "can't wait" to let me hear. The record should be put out early in the New Year. Nothing is really confirmed at present but when it is you'll surely hear about it in these pages first!

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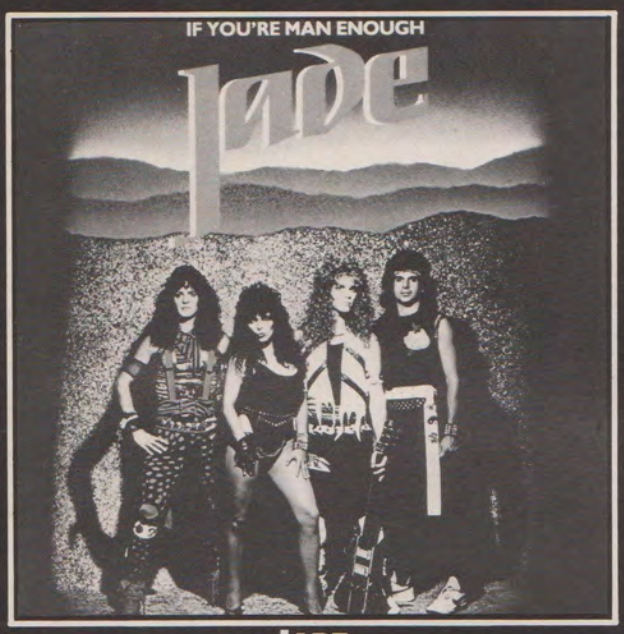

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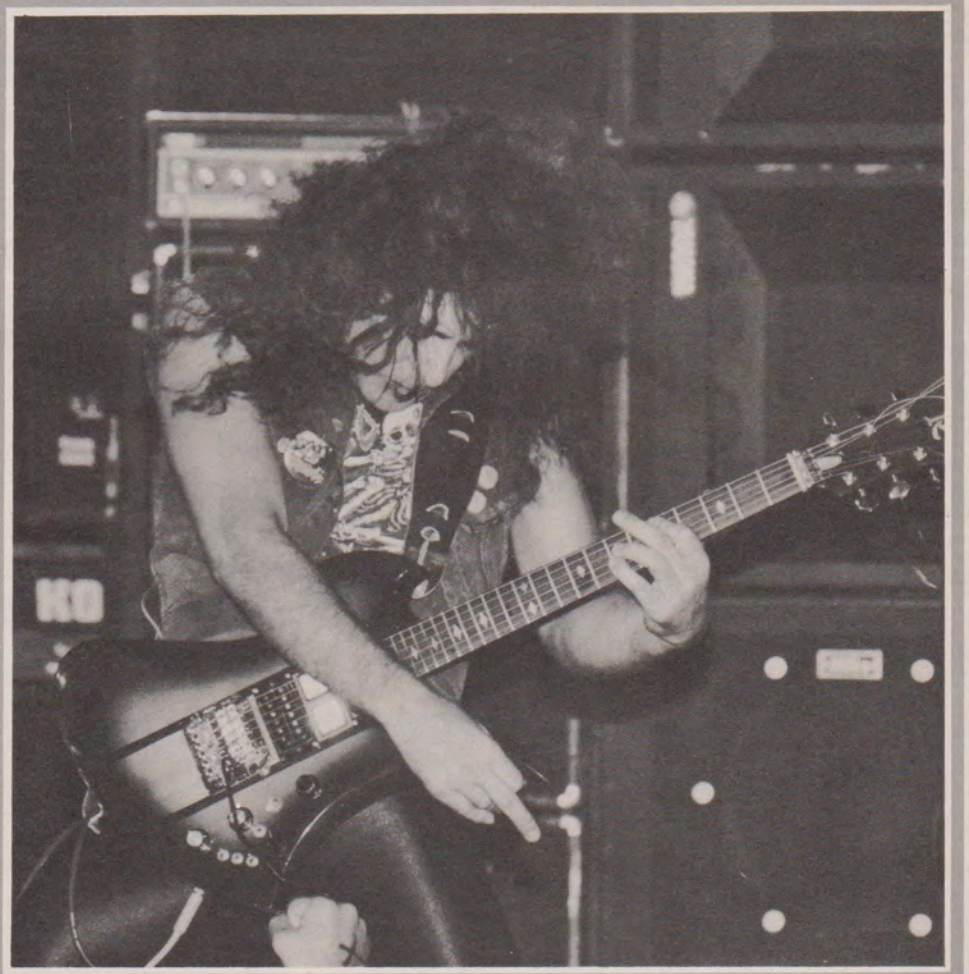
Agent Steel

FACT OR FICTION?

BERNARD DOE Speaks To The New Masters Of Metal

JOHN CYRIIS



JUAN GARCIA

Pic John Vincenti

It's a well known fact that the most successful bands in heavy metal are those with the most original and at the same time the most appealing sound. Now while many would argue that AGENT STEEL are mearly copyists drawing influences from the likes of IRON MAIDEN, MERCYFUL FATE, JUDAS PRIEST, SLAYER and METALLICA, I firmly believe that the band have their own exciting distinctive sound and a conceptual attitude that puts them in a class of their own compared with other speed metal bands. Take a listen to the bands LP "Skeptics Apocalypse" to find out what I mean.

AGENT STEEL is the brainchild of lead vocalist and main songwriter John Cyriis, a musician who, despite his young years, is a near veteran of the LA metal scene having played with the likes of ABATTOIR and SCEPTRE and appeared on both band offerings to the "Metal Massacre" compilation album.

It was with John, together with guitarist Juan Garcia (another ex-ABATTOIR member), that I recently spoke to about AGENT STEEL's goals and objectives. But first task on the agenda was for John to explain the formation of the band, that in its early stages was plagued with constant line-up problems in the guitarist department?

John: "Well basically I left ABATTOIR because of conceptual differences, and I decided to start my own band where I could have conceptual and musical freedom. I used to play guitar and I felt I had a lot of material

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that was like sitting in the cupboard and being wasted because ABATTOIR didn't want to use it. So I decided to start my own band.

"I started AGENT STEEL with a drummer Chuck Profus that I used to play with in a band a long time back, and bassist George Robb. The three of us basically founded the band in August '84."

What about the guitarist problems you've had? There's been Mark Marshall (now SAVAGE GRACE), John Gott, Bill Simmons and Kurt Kilfelt, who played on the album, and they've all been replaced nearly as quickly as they had joined the band. Why?

John: "Well Mark was a friend I'd met and he was kind of a fill-in for a while. He was like a rookie on the scene, he'd never been in a professional band or played live on stage. So I gave him a break and helped him ripen up to the metal scene and playing live. But as time went on I decided that I didn't really have much use for him because he didn't have much studio experience. Since I had really worked well with Juan in the past with ABATTOIR, I decided to bring him into the band and we've hit it off really well; the bands just got more powerful and the directions became more stable also.

"As for Kurt Kilfelt well despite all the attitude problems we had with him, we left his photo on the album out of sheer courtesy. We had never really decided that he was going to become a permanent member of AGENT STEELE because we were not sure of hiring band members with attitudes as in the case of Mike Marshall also. Unfortunately a lot of good musicians are ruined by attitudes and girlfriends."

Juan: "Kurt's been out of the band now for about six months. We've now got a new guitar player, Bernie Versye and the guy's an incredible lead player and a good songwriter also. This will be evident on our new EP which will feature three new AGENT STEEL tracks."

When you first formed the new band, I seem to remember some confusion over the name. Wasn't you originally gonna call the band SANCTUARY?

John: "Well SANCTUARY was a band that me and drummer Chuch Profus was in together several years ago, and we really got attached to the name; that's why we were a little sketchy on the name itself. But we thought that AGENT STEEL overall was a little more accesible without directly implying any kind of religious preference.

"Even though SANCTUARY is not, say a black metal name, we still felt it implies some kind of religious concept, and we didn't want to imply that we were Christians or anything because we're not. So that's why we decided against SANCTUARY and stuck with AGENT STEEL."

You were originally going to record a mini-LP but ended up releasing a full length album. Why? John: "Well at first we didn't know if we had the budget to go in and record a full album. But once we went in the studio things just fell into place so we ended up being able to record enough tracks for a full album."

Did you record the album before you got the deal? John: "No, what happened was Combat Records was interested in us because they had just signed ABATTOIR and MEGADETH and they knew that Juan and I had been with ABATTOIR and a lot of the magazines had been asking what had happened to the ABATTOIR singer that had sung on the"Metal Massacre" track "Screams From The Grave" and Juan had played on that track and the ABATTOIR album -even though the band didn't give him any crdit for playing on the album, which I think is a really dirty thing - and Combat knew there was a buzz about AGENT STEEL in the local scene and having heard the "144,000 Gone" demo they immediately wanted to sign the band. They gave us a recording budget and we just went in the studio and did it".

Juan, your split with ABATTOIR: As John said you did play on the album; why didn't they give you any credit? Juan: "Basically they were upset that I had left the band. We had just finished recording the album and it was during the mixing sessions that I decided it wasn't going to work out - there was a lot of turmoil in the band - so I decided to leave.

"I thought that they were going to be cool about things and at least put my name on the album as playing guitar and not just writing some of the music.

"What they did was take a new band photo and just decided to erase any thought of any former members just to make it look a stable band I guess. Also the drummer didn't play on that album either. It's the other drummer Robert Wayne playing on the album and he didn't even get his name mentioned at all. So it was kind of a dirty thing to do, but people do that these days; dog eat dog I guess."

What do you think of all the comparisons to IRON MAIDEN that people have been making? Probably me more than anyone having labelled you "MAIDEN on speed". Do you get sick of that term?

Juan: "Well I think the comparison to Maiden is because we have a lot of harmonies in our music and we play fast too and John's vocals are good just like Bruce Dickinson's."

John: "Well I actually consider it a really heavy compliment to be compared to IRON MAIDEN so closely. But I think we have a very different and original sound than IRON MAIDEN. I also think my vocal range is very differnt to Bruce Dickinson's and also my conceptual ideas.

"But I do consider it a compliment to be compared to MAIDEN because they're so successful and it makes me feel that AGENT STEEL could have a good future ahead of us."

What direction musically do you see the band taking in the future? John: "Well we want to keep our music as original sounding as we can. We like playing speed and hardcore metal because were young and it's something we're getting out of our system right now. Although we don't see ourselves playing this aggressive forever, we do want to keep our music as heavy as possible and we definately will not compromise and loose any kind of integrity as far as conceptual things go.

"I'd never see us ending up writing songs about girls or releationships. Even if we were forced to we couldn't do it because it's not in us."

What's it like in LA at the moment for metal bands? John: "LA is really becoming a drag for HM and I'll tell you why. A lot of the glam bands are starting to take over, for a while it was really cool because punk was really in and all the people were getting really hardcore and into speed metal." But now all the clubs are being infiltrated by what they're calling a "glam metal scene" where guys dressed up like girls with lipstick and their hair up in the air like MOTLEY CRUE looking like a bunch of porcupines and they come over very feminine. I guess this turns on the girls or whatever.

"Another reason is that a lot of the clubs are all starting to boycott hardcore metal. We just played a gig recently where we had to practically strangle the owner of the club to let us

play. I mean he was trying to make us sign an insurance policy saying that if there was any damage or anybody got hurt at the club where people were slam diving or headbanging, then we were responsible. Well we don't want to be responsible for that; like a guy stage dives and breaks his foot and he's gonna sue us for $100,000 instead of the club.

"But a lot of the clubs around here are really strongly boycotting hardcore metal. SLAYER just played at the Country Club and somebody got really hurt bad so the club won't allow SLAYER back there anymore; DARK ANGEL and a lot of the heavy bands have also been banned.

"It's like a movement I guess that's trying to stop them. Like the Senators wives thing in Washington DC, who are trying to get record labels to put warning labels on the front of the albums which I think is pretty ridiculous; because instead of stopping HM all they're doing is giving it more hype; making the kids more curious about the contents of these records that they're trying to hide or cover up so much."

The shows get very violent then in LA? John: " Extremely violent. We play a lot of shows with SLAYER and the crowds are just unbelievable. We see 500 or 600 people in a slam circle and all you see is bodies swaying and falling, and in the middle of the circle is like a complete frenzy!"

Juan: "Yeah, SLAYER are pretty much total Gods out here in LA when it comes to hardcore shows. It's unbelievable, it's something you've gotta witness yourself."

John: "Also we're pretty well accepted by the SLAYER crowd and a lot of the hardcore audiences. Although our music is a little more cleaner they tend to respect us becuase our attitudes on stage are really serious. They don't take it like we're posers or whatever."

You've just played a string of gigs across the US. When can we expect to see you in Europe? John: "Well we definately want to come to Europe but I think we'll let the album circulate a bit more and let the name become more known; so that when we do come over there it will be a little more worth our while. We'll probably come over once the EP has been released."

Juan: "The EP will also be available in a limited picture disc version. It's more heavier with a lot more energy than on our album."

John: "Yeah I'd like to quote a little of the concept from our EP. It's called "Mad Locust Riding" and the title song is "Locust And Plague" which is about a swarm of locust 3 miles wide, 2 miles high and like a black cloud moving across Africa, destroying everything in its path, all the crops - everying. The strange thing about these locusts is they're not like ordinary locust; they don't just eat crops but they also eat human flesh and there's nothing that can stop them; they just keep multiplying by thousands a minute.

"It ends up with the swarm getting near the coast and the scientists believe they're not gonna make it across the water, but the latest report was they had been 12,000 miles out to sea and they were moving towards North America.

"I think it's a really interesting thing; the lyrical concept is just gonna grab people by the throat". You had better believe it.

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9

If thrash is merely a passing fancy and you fancy at least one thrash metal album then THIS is the one to get. ANTHRAX? I've heard that LP and I don't like it. POSSESSED have easily recorded The definitive thrash album of 1985. SLAYER? Who? Seriously POSSESSED have much more in the way of ability and youth to seriously challenge for the heaviest of crowns. Possibly the best thing to happen to thrash metal since VENOM gave us 'Black Metal'.

From the eerie church organ intro to "The Exorcist", it's no-relentin' rock'n'roll. The guitar work of Messrs. Lalonde and Torrao is excellent throughout, definately the most innovative of players in this sphere. Some of the things they've put on vinyl, particularly captured on "Pentagram" or "Holy Hell" are virtually unheard of, even in 'normal' metal circles. Cliched? No way!

I admit I could've done without the Cronos like wailings of Jeff Becerra but I guess if the guy actually sang something he would, like anybody else, be dubbed a poser. You have to sound tough right? No Vince Neil clones in thrash metal right?

"Seven Churches" should be indispensable to connoisseurs of this type of stuff and, to anyone else, a reminder that not all thrash metal is just pure noise with no musicianship.Right?

DAVE REYNOLDS

HELSTAR
Remnants Of War
(Combat Records)

10

These guys are on the cutting edge of something very big. If Heavy Metal is to continually grow and progress, the bands involved can not continue to plod along playing the same old cliched material. HELSTAR's brand new offering proves they are not running with the rest of the pack.

This L.P. is unlike "Burning Star". But then again, if you liked "Burning Star" you'll probably love "Remnants Of War". The HELSTAR style still remains; James Rivera (aka Bill Lionel) still is their excellent vocalist and Larry Barragan still handles half of the lightning leads. It's the rest of the line-up that has changed, and it is most certainly a change for the better. The reasons for these changes will be brought out in-depth in an upcoming HELSTAR article.

What is important now is what they do. Drummer Rene Luna, bassist Jerry Abarca and guitarist Robert Trevino intentionally or unintentionally have led HELSTAR to a "Sound" that may be the next big thing to be copied. They are excellent replacements.

If you loved MEGADETH's debut, this will be for you. "Remnants Of War" is technical and unpredictable and a guitarist's dream. The album was produced by Randy Burns, and he has brought the guitars to the front. Unlike "Burning Star" in which nothing stood out at the hands of Carl Canedy.

"Remnants of War" is an 8 song LP. Plus one instrumental intro. For those of you who have a bootleg copy of "Helstar Live At Austin" you will remember a cut not on "Burning Star" called "Deliver Us From Evil". This song as well as the intro "Unidos Por Tristeza" is now called "Remnants Of War". This shows you that the LP has been one and a half years in the making.

A lot of you probably thought HELSTAR vanished from the face of the Earth. After this LP you'd better believe they'll never vanish again.

MIKE VERGANE

ICON
Night Of The Crime
(Capitol)

10

Without one shadow of a doubt THE album of the year - unless something truly MEGA appears between now and December 31st! Probably one of the finest commerical metal albums ever recorded and a product that Phoenix boyz ICON can justifiably be proud of.

Produced by pedigree studio person Eddie Kramer, "Night Of The Crime" oozes with classy songs and even finer musicianship. From the opening brilliance of "Naked Eyes" (one of the saddest HR songs written since "Happy Ending" by BREATHLESS?) through to the metal stompin' Mike Varney co-written "Rock My Radio" ICON can do no wrong. This is what commercial metal is all about. Check out awesome tracks such as "Shot At My Heart", "Hungry For Love" or "Out For Blood" and you'll be hooked. Sure they're much more commerical than on last year's debut. Sure they've dropped the overtly glam image (Kelv and I shed silent tears as a mark of respect) but this time the music says it all. A GEM.

DAVE REYNOLDS

Y&T
Down For The Count
(A&M Records)

8

Well I guess it would be wishful thinking to imagine that Y and T will ever release another classic to match the standards set by their "Earthshaker" album? But compared with recent garbage the band have been producing I must say that "Down For The Count" hints strongly at a return to the glory days.

"In The Name Of Rock" and "Don't Tell Me What To Wear" are the two class tracks. Both powerful heavy metal rockers delivered in vintage Y and T style.

Even the slightly more commercial orientated numbers like the DOKKEN style of "Anytime At All" or the WHITE SISTER injected "Face Like An Angle" stand head and shoulders above recent feeble efforts.

Unfortunately though there's still a few cringeable moments like on the pop trash of "All American Boy" and "Summertime Girls". While the cover of LOGGIN'S AND MESSINA's "Your Mama Don't Dance" is nothing short of crap.

Until Y and T dispense with trying to write a US hit single them I'm afraid they will come in for as much abuse as they do praise. But seeing as the high points outweigh the low then "Down For The Count" has to be worth checking out for both old and new Y and T fans alike. I keep my fingers crossed for further improvement.

BERNARD DOE

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HELLOWEEN

Walls Of Jericho
(Noise)

Well the promise that Germany's HELLOWEEN have shown on previous outings - two tracks on the "Death Metal" compilation and the "Helloween" mini-LP - have been totally fulfilled with their first full-length album because it's an absolute speed metal classic.

I thought I'd heard the album of the year in ANTHRAX's "Spread The Disease" but now I'm not so sure? "Walls Of Jericho" is bursting at the seams with some of the classiest metal ever put on vinyl.

As I've indicated in the past; the twin lead duo of Kai Hansen and Michael Weikath has a slight IRON MAIDEN feel about it. But these guys wipe the floor with MAIDEN on sheer power as indicated on the very first track "Ride The Sky" - six minutes of technical speed metal blitz.

"Reptile" is more conventional metal but certainly leaves no prisoners, while "Guardians", a thrash orientated number with a catchy anthemic chorus.

Side one closes with "Phantoms Of Death" which is another six minute plus epic. The main riff is a blatant copy from the PRETTY MAIDS 1983 demo track "Spanish Midnight", but the flurry of guitar soloing on this track is so brilliant I can ignore that lapse in originality.

Side two is even better (if that's possible?). The frantic power assault of "Metal Invaders" kicks off and is followed by "Gorgar" which has a menacing ANTHRAX/METALLICA inspired riff; although I could have done without the "Peter And The Wolf" (I think?) jig in the middle.

"Heavy Metal (Is The Law)" is a metal anthem that will go down a storm live and the ultra speed riffing is breathtaking.

At seven minutes plus and entitled "How Many Tears" I had envisaged the final track to be a soppy ballad. But how wrong could I be? Surely more sweat than tears will be shed trying to keep up with this neckbreaker - a truly fitting climax to a superb album.

So there you have it. METAL FORCES have been criticised somewhat in the past for being too generous with its high star ratings. Well in some cases I'd agree, but "Walls Of Jericho" certainly deserves every one of those ten stars and don't you believe anything different.

BERNARD DOE

SEDUCE

Seduce
(Psycho Mania Records)

This LP could well turn out to be a semi-thrash legend. The riffs on this debut LP are killers and there is so much power put into what's happening. Remember WITCH? Well this is far beyond that, production wise; but WITCH are definately the biggest comparison for SEDUCE.

Every track is highly recommended especially "Vipers Bite", "Face To Face" and "Chopping Block". It's only Mark Andrews occassional vocal mishaps that stop this album being a ten-star job; but I'm sure recording experience will take care of things for him. Apart from that it's a mighty glam/thrash (thrash? Ed.) crossover if ever I heard one.

KELV HELLRAZER

PAULINE GILLAN BAND

Hearts Of Fire
(Powerstation)

A melodic British WARLOCK? Maybe? The opening track "Love Hurts" is a good belter with an added dimension thanks to the keyboards of Chris Wing. The production is sympathetic towards the instrumention but seems to lose Pauline Gillan's vocals somewhere. Then again I can't say I was particularly knocked out by her voice. She sounds very ordinary to be quite frank.

Some of the tracks; notably side two's "Fantasia" and "Fire In My Life" are quite interesting, particularly the latter, but the rest just sounded - well - average.

DAVE REYNOLDS

THE GODZ

I'll Get You Rockin'
(Heavy Metal America)

THE GODZ are back and are kickin' serious butt. I actually knew about the band reforming a couple of months back when I was sent a five track demo by Dave 'Eyeliner' Roberts. To be honest I was impressed but not blown away. It was only a track called "Burning Bridges" that really moved me with its gospel singers and all, but unfortunately this track does not appear.

Anyway a couple of months later and Mr Roberts puts THE GODZ white label on the turntable. "Timeless" hits me like a brick wall, possibly the ultimate intro keyboard passage and guaranteed to be stolen by many as an intro tape. Then the magical guitars of Freddie Salem open "Chest Fever" doing a Gary Moore type intro which then makes way for the mighty gravel growlin' Eric Moore's titanic vocals. "Chest Fever" kills. THE GODZ put so much power into their music. It's not thrash or death but just pure power and it's unique to THE GODZ.

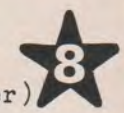
"Foolin' Yourself" see's GODZ newcomer guitarist Pete Schuffert going for mayhem on the lead vocals and a fine job he does. "Hey You" closes side one in fine GODZ style with a mini-rap from Eric Moore and enough good time rock'n'roll to keep even the most miserable of punters happy.

Side two is pretty much the same as one. "Fire" features some hot guitar licks. Whilst "We're All Crazy" must be the natural successor to "Gotta Keep A Runnin" with "GODZ are rock' n'roll rap" en all. THE GODZ are back make no mistake. It's time Eric Moore had some success, I mean this guy is the only true rock'n'roller and if you think I'm kiddin' try and meet the guy.

KELV HELLRAZER

ATTACKER

Battle At Helms Deep
(Metal Blade/Roadrunner)



I remember raving over the band in MF4's "Demolition" section. That demo killed - it was rough, tough and more to the point it was good. Anyway Metal Blade gave 'em a record deal, here's the album.

It's not the greatest thing I've heard. Whilst some tracks are great others show that the band have the ideas but not, as yet capable of really pulling them off to truly melt your face. A prime example is "The Hermit" which could be really good if the arrangements were worked on a bit more. A case of a band trying to be too clever? Could be, but it's certainly refreshing to hear a band that is trying something a little different than all out aural assault. Guitarists Pat Marinelli and Jim Mooney work well to create some original interplay and riffs together.

Actually 'original' is quite a good word to describe ATTACKER. My favourite cuts have to be the one's I'm more

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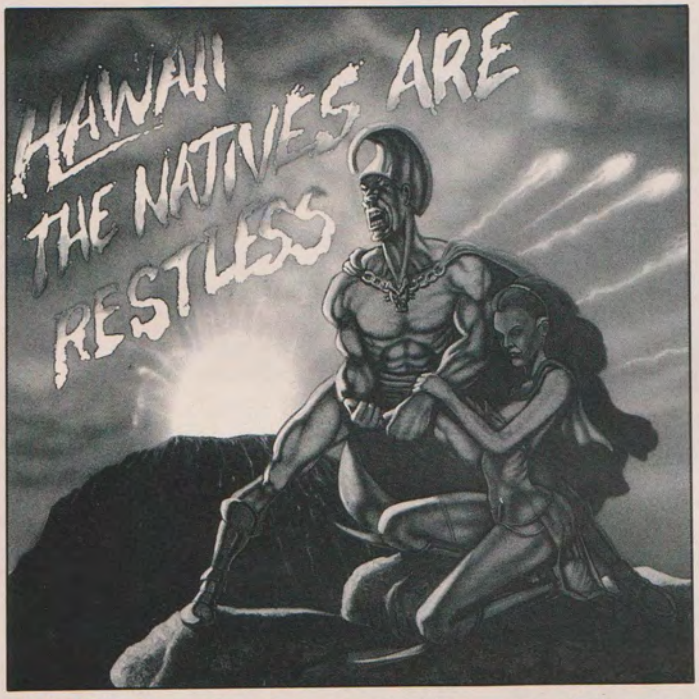
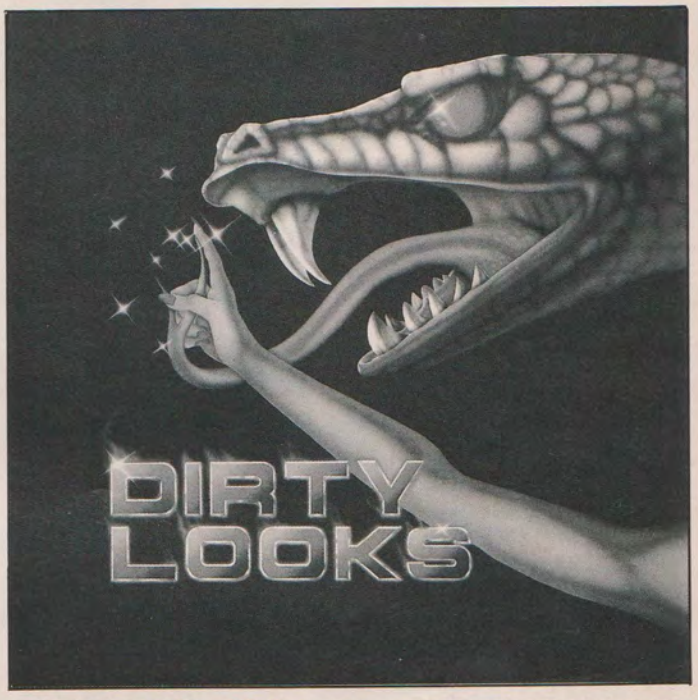
PRESENTS



HAWAII: This album is a real killer... one of the top heavy metal band around...
(KICK ASS Mag)



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DARK ANGEL: A real monster which leaves you screaming for more and more. (Metal Forces n° 11)

ROYAL AIR FORCE: Probably the best heavy metal band from ITALY.

GLACIER: Ist mini LP : It seems evident that this band won't stay unknown for a long time (ENFER MAG).

SACRED RITE: A shit hot metal band... IRON MAIDEN on acid (KERANG N° 101)

WORLD WAR III: One hell of a debut album (Bernard Doe, Metal Forces)

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familiar with viz "Call On The Attacker", "Disciple", "Slayers Blade" and "Kick Your Face" - which appear to lack the rough punch that most fave demo tracks do when put onto vinyl, but are still worthy of crankin' out on your 'System Of Death'. The newer songs that get the D.R. seal of approval include the rough edged "Downfall" - cuttin' stuff. All said and done a promising debut record. No bullshit. Honest enough for ya?

DAVE REYNOLDS

KEEN HUE

Ogre King
(Criminal Response)

Another of our former Demolition acts to gain a record deal. Ignore thetruly shitty cover and delve into the contents. A ten track selection of goodies from this great Swedish four piece first recommended to me by Miss Swedish Metal; Lena Graff. It's simple enough stuff but the musicianship is first rate and the band know how to get you interested. Bass/vocals man Lars Ake Nilson is the main-man and he and his cohorts have delivered a fine debut here. My faves include "Crossfire", "Daydreams" (including a great line i.e. "Fuck This Shit") the truly inspired "We Don't Wanna Go" and the 'anthem' (?!) "Keen Hue". Glad to see they've left the ballads well alone this time. My congratulations. Nice one guys! Readers, try'n' hear this one OK?

DAVE REYNOLDS

CITIES

Annihilation Absolute
(Metal Masters)

It seems somewhat strange that CITIES have to follow the same route that TWISTED SISTER and BLACKLACE trekked in pursuit of a record contract. The route to Europe. What the hell is the matter with American record labels? All three bands built up strong followings in NYC and abroad but not one whiff of a US contract.

So who has the last laugh? Look at how huge T.S. are now eh? And BLACKLACE, after two fine Mausoleum albums, look set to sign with a major in the near future. All I can hope and pray for is that CITIES do the same. This band has been waiting for this moment for a long time - and so have their fans. Their demo's slayed me, the live show is a killer and the musicianship (like that in most NYC bands - WHITE LION especially) is of the highest quality. Steve Mironovich is a real axe grinder and he knows it - the guy is amazing. Ron Angell displays a fine line in classy vocals and Sal Mayne plays a mean bass. Currently the drummer is Scott Du Boys although John Angell plays on the album.

Now I'd have given this a 10star rating if they'd included the "Shades Of Black"/ Guitar Solo/"Deceiver" showpiece, but they didn't. Bad luck guys! Still we're treated to "In The Still Of The Night", the awesome "Innocent Victim", "Not Alone In The Dark" (Good to see the "Heavy Fuckin' Metal" rap is retained at the beginning), "Burn Forever", "Fight For Your Life" and the brilliant antinuclear age "Stop The Race" protest cut.

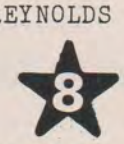
What more can I tell you? Find out what CLASSY HEAVY METAL (with strong emphasis on the HEAVY) means. Buy the fuckin' thing - don't be alone - in the dark.

FOOTNOTE: Where do CITIES go from here? On the strength of a recent demo I've just heard which is more hard rock than HM I'd suggest the band wait to see how well the album is received. It's all very well evolving but DON'T WIMP OUT!!!

DAVE REYNOLDS

FOREPLAY

First Licks
(USA Records)



Formerly known as the VALGRANT BAND, this is the bands first release as FOREPLAY. The first thing that strikes you about this LP is its cover - check out the girl clad in suspenders and licking the guitar - a Mike Shannon eyes pop out of head job if everI saw one; excellent packaging guys. Hitting off with the magical "Imaginary Lover" (kind of AEROSMITH influenced melodic rock with a slight southern tinge). Val Grant and his cohorts fly through some of the finest melodies ever to have stepped onto an independant release. Check out the righteous funk of "Going Crazy" - this is the sort of music that takes you back to the days of WIRELESS and FACEDANCER. Flip over to side two and you have Micheal St. Pierre flicking around on his acoustic before swapping it about ten seconds latter for his electric axe on "Bottom Line" which sounds like CREED on acid.

Elsewhere the excitement never lets up.I must give a big mention to "Better Off Dead" which is my favourite track on the LP, reminding me of LEGS DIAMOND around their second LP period. It's classic stuff and the beat change near the middle is really clever. No there's nothing really to slag off at all except Roy Orbison's "Candy Man" the LP's only bummer. I mean guys I bet your worst song is a helluva lot stronger than this. Otherwise a fine LP and one to boot us Brits up the arse.

KELV HELLRAZER

UFO

Misdemeanor
(Chrsyalis)

I've kinda been a UFO fan since the release of the superb "Strangers In The Night" live album. Of course Phil Mogg is the only founding member in the band but he can still sing with as much feeling as ever. There's more keyboards now and the direction is much more commercial.

"This Time" shows this new direction from the start but it's not one of the album's best songs. Neither is "One Heart" - a song. that, say TOBRUK, could make mincemeat out of. "Night Run" is the kind of thing Rex Smith would've covered on any of his last 3 solo albums whilst "Meanstreets" is only really saved by Atomik Tommy M's brilliant guitar work. The only really good track on side one is "The Only Ones" a heartfelt ballad in true UFO tradition.

It's side two where, apart from one track (the average "Wreckless"), the band really slip into gear. "Name Of Love" and "Blue" are just superb HR tracks layered with Paul Raymond keyboard textures. And the guitarwork is exceptional. Tommy also puts his heart & soul into the solo on the second album ballad "Dream The Dream". Great stuff M. Then there's the brilliant "Heavens Gate" where the UFO of old comes to the fore.

Overall though I get the impression that is is an album made by a band who have yet to find their true musical potential together. When they do I'll be listening intently.

DAVE REYNOLDS

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OVERKILL

Feel The Fire
(Megaforce)

8

In my book OVERKILL are not the thrash band that many hardcore pundits and fanzines make out. Speed Metal yes; but in no way do they create the frenzied intensity of true thrashers like SLAYER. That's not to say that OVERKILL have nothing to offer; because in their own right they certainly do.

The album includes "Raise The Head", "There's No Tomorrow" and "Overkill" (which were featured on the bands original "Power In Black" demo). But for me the highlights are "Feel The Fire", "Kill At Command" and the frantic riffing power of "Blood and Iron"- dedicated to all the bands Blood Metal Donars. Not forgetting my fave track "Hammerhead" which reminds me somewhat of ANTHRAX's "Gung-Ho".

There are a couple of uninspiring moments viz "Rotten To The Core" and "Second Son", and I still think tha band lack the true class of many of their counterparts to really set the world alight at this stage. But "Feel The Fire" still manages to live up to the pre-release optomism.

BERNARD DOE

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Royal Air Force
(Axe Killer Records)

8

A highly talented Italian band this who in the main have mixed speed metal with a touch of commercialism to produce a thoroughly recommended mini-album.

Tracks like "Storytellers", "Oh Dive" and "Powered By The Night" are high class rockers that are bursting with energy and enthusiasm. Only the rather long and drawn out "The Age Of The Rage" fails to impress.

"I'm Sneakin' On You" drifts slightly into ACCEPT territory, but plodding boredom is overcome by a catchy chorus and background grunts and groans that will surely have the likes of Dave Reynolds 'coming' back for more!

The closing number "Royal Air Force" is typical of the album as a whole, strong riffing, good production and again a catchy chorus. I'm looking forward to a full length R.A.F. album soon.

BERNARD DOE

FLATBACKER

Flatbacker
(Invitation - Jap Import)

9

Regular readers into Jap metal will no doubt remember this outfit when they went by the name of FLATVACKER and were featured in our "Kamikaze Killer" article last year. Well the band have finally made it onto vinyl and as predicted back then,have certainly come up with the goods.

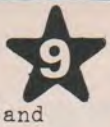
"Hard Blow" crashes through the speakers like MOTORHEAD without the gravel chewing vocals and is a fine opener.

The name of METALLICA springs to mind on more than one occassion whilst listening to this album. Check out "Deathwish" and the superb "Camouflage" to see what I mean. Whilst ANTHRAX could well be another Western inspiration as the mencacing "Banishment"(touches of "Medusa" here) and the frenzied approach of "Dance" are unleashed with awesome power and precision.

Yes, FLATBACKER have certainly arrived and along with ANTHEM will hopefully get some deserved recognition from the Western world in '86.

BERNARD DOE

ARTILLERY
Fear Of Tomorrow
(Neat Records)



Denmark's heaviest band finally get onto vinyl and an excellent debut album they've produced too.

The bands mixture of MERCYFUL FATE, SLAYER and EXODUS type mayhem on tracks like "Time Has Gone", "Out Of The Sky" and "The Eternal War", even puts label mates VENOM in the shadow for pure heaviness. The climax of the album with the two demo faves "Fear Of Tomorrow" and "Deeds Of Darkness" is totally mindblowing.

Add to the above,technical thrashers like "The Almighty" "Show Your Hate", "King, Thy Name is Slayer" and the total blur of "Into The Universe" and you have one helluva album. But don't wait for tomorrow - buy it today.

BERNARD DOE

GLACIER
Glacier
(Axe Killer Records)

The interesting thing I first noticed about this five track mini-LP is that GLACIER have acquired the services of three different vocalists and from what I can determine from the sleeve credits they're still in search of the perfect frontman.

Anyway onto the contents which in the main are quite promising. The Oregon based band are obviously strongly influenced by European metal. The first track "When Heaven's At Hand" reminds me somewhat of OZZY OSBOURNE while "Vendetta" sounds like IRON MAIDEN mixed with the melody of TOKYO BLADE.

The musicianship is constantly good throughout, spearheaded by the twin lead attack of Sam Easley and Patrick Goebel who shine to the max on "Speak No Evil" and the MAIDENish "Devil In Disguise". Although the best track for me is the fast paced assault of "Ready For Battle".

So a promising release but the band must surely get hold of a permanant vocalist if they want to create some kind of identity.

BERNARD DOE

BLESSED DEATH
Kill Or Be Killed
(Tungsten/Megaforce)

An East Coast Death Metal band with strong modern day West Coast influences. In a nutshell BLESSED DEATH are a cross between the technical riffing power of METALLICA and the out and out thrash precision of SLAYER.

Really the band could have done with a better, more heavier production to create the overall intensity of tracks like "Knight Of Old Bridge", "Napalm", "Eternal War" and the excellent "Omen Of Fate". But it's still stirring stuff that recovers well from the dodgy opener "Melt Down"; and let's give a special mention to the distinctive vocals of Larry Portelli that can best be described as EXCITER's Dan Beehler with the high pitch screams of a King Diamond. Recommended.

BERNARD DOE

REACTION
Insane
(Danger Crue - Jap Import)

With Power Metal stamped on the cover of this album I must admit I expected a little more. True, tracks like "Joy Ride", "Insane" and particularly "Lonesome Knight" are some inspiring slices of speed metal. But generally REACTION tend to draw more influences from the more commercial US bands such as MOTLEY CRUE, DOKKEN and PANTERA than METALLICA or ANTHRAX. Certainly an album to approach with caution.

BERNARD DOE

BLACKMAYNE
Blackmayne
(Criminal Response Records)

BLACKMAYNE are a typical British metal band; chunky heavy riffing with crisp lead soloing. But unfortunately the bands debut album is let down by poor production.

Side one opens in fine style with the agressive rocker "Twilight Of Lear", although the remaining three numbers tend to be a bit samey and predictable.

On side two however the album really comes to light and with the exception of the mundane "Man Overboard" offers some powerful crunching material in the shape of "Counterpoint", "Hot Blooded Woman" and "Altered States" which cry out for a decent production. I just hope the finances stretch to rectify this situation next time around.

BERNARD DOE

CELTIC FROST
"To Mega Therion"
(Noise)

Well, the first full length CELTIC FROST offering has finally arrived and I must say it takes a fair number of plays to get into this album.

A couple of numbers like "Jewel Throne" and "Circle Of The Tyrants" - a re-recorded version of the track from the "Emperors Return" mini-LP - are fairly accessible after just a couple of listens. But the likes of "Dawn Of Megiddo", "Eternal Summer" and "The Uspurper" are so full of constant tempo changes between doom and thrash that it will surely make your average headbanger totally frustrated with the albums unpredictability - although no doubt many of you are already saying that CELTIC FROST fans are not average headbangers. Well, I can believe that.

For me the best track on the album is "Fainted Eyes" which at times is total thrash, although "(Beyond The)North Winds" and "Tears In A Prophet's Dream"/"Necromantical Screams" I'm afraid fail to impress.

Tom Warrior's vocals have improved somewhat on past performances but as a lead guitarist there's obvious improvements to be made. Maybe it wouldn't be a bad move for the band to get hold of an additional more accomplished lead guitarist. But there again who am I to tell Tom Warrior what to do? The guy obviously knows where he's heading. So much so that he's already announced the titles of the next two CELTIC FROST albums; "Into The Pandemonium" and "Necronomicon". Now there's confidence for you.

BERNARD DOE

WARFARE
Metal Anarchy
(Neat Records)

Produced by Lemmy, WARFARE's second album continues in the same mayhemic vein as their debut.

Once the band have dispensed with the "Sound Of Music" intro, the album explodes into the punk thrash of "Electric Mayhem", before running through some slightly below par attempts at speed metal like on "Death Vigilantes" and "Disgrace" while the boppy "Wrecked Society" reminds me a lot of the riff to MAIDEN's "Running Free".

It's not really until the later stages of side two that the band really begin to show their true colours again on the aggressive fast paced riffers "Military Shadow" and "Metal Anarchy".

But it's the album closer "Psycho Express" that is my fave track; a VENOM meets MOTORHEAD in a dark sewer thrasher, with a typical WARFACE mayhemic ending.

Overall a good album that maybe just lacks the consistency of the first album.

BERNARD DOE

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Speed Metal Hell
(New Renaissance)

7

There's never a shortage of new metal bands eager to appear on the ever increasing amount of compilation albums released each year.

"Speed Metal Hell" features a number of bands who are making their vinyl debuts, a majority of whom will be familiar to avid readers of our "Demo-lition" section.

SAVAGE GRACE are the most popular band here with two numbers from their great "Master Of Disguise" album, while ARTILLERY who have just released a superb debut, have a non-album track, "Hey Woman", which for me is one of the album highlights.

Other worthy performances are WHIPLASH with the total blur of "Thrash Till Death", EXECUTIONER with the impressive "Victims Of Evil"; Virginia's AT WAR thrashing their way through the VENOM/SLAYER inspired "Eat Lead", ATTILAsupplying a menacing riffer in the form of "Lucifers Hammer" and MIDNITE VICE from Canada showing the ability to mix speed metal with more melodical sounds.

So what about the remainder? Well Italy's SHINING BLADE sound fairly average with "Winged Snake", the same goes for BATTLE BRAT on "Henchman"; MEDIEVAL have never really appealed to me and "World War Four" does nothing to impress either. Which leaves STILETTO who in my opinion are not even a speed metal band. True "Through The Night" is fairly aggressive but the band fail miserably with the dreadful backing harmonies.

Far from a classic compilation, but if you're into speed metal then this album is sure to contain something to your liking.

FOOTNOTE: The cassette version of "Speed Metal Hell" contains three bonus tracks; WHIPLASH "Chained Up Tied Down", VICE "Ready To Fire" and MONOLITH "Why Don't You Die".

BERNARD DOE

AVALANCHE

Pray For The Sinner
(Roadrunner Records)

6

AVALANCHE are a Kansas City trio who play melodical hard driving metal with catchy hooklines thats a trademark for many US bands although on this occassion I'm afraid the band are let down by a weak production.

At times AVALANCHE sound like a watered down version of W.A.S.P. viz "Tortured Defender" and "When The Thunder Roars" and I much prefer the speed metal injected "Child Of Damnation", but in the main I'm afraid the band fail with a lack of strong material and that poor production.

BERNARD DOE

LIVING DEATH

Metal Revolution
(Earthshaker Records)

8

I got a lot of stick for giving LIVING DEATH's first album "Vengeance Of Hell" a nine star review. Looking back then I guess subsequant spins did loose the initial impact of the album. But anyway let's get on with reviewing the follow-up - "Metal Revolution".

First of all it must be said that the vocals from Thorsten Bergmann are a definate improvement from the bands first outing, and the guitar duo of Reiner Kelch and Frank Frike are hotter than ever. But while a majority of tracks are totally brilliant, like the opening thrasher "Killing Machine", there are two or three numbers that I find rather abysmal. "Ruler's Must Come" for instance sounds like a weird combination of AEROSMITH and ACCEPT. While the monotonous "Screaming From A Chamber" wouldn't be out of place on a LED ZEPPELIN album.

Basically LIVING DEATH are a very fine speed metal band who should stick with the likes of "Grippin' My Heart" "Road Of Destiny", "Panic And Hysteria" and the superb "Shadow Of The Dawn" than the slower mundane rock of "Deep In Hell" which just doesn't impress at all. But despite the couple of drawbacks "Metal Revolution" is still a worthwhile purchase.

BERNARD DOE

POISON DOLLYS

Poison Dollys
(Passport Records)

9

Killer all-girl rock band from New York City and another nail in the coffin for Brit girl bands. These Dollys look real hot, especially vocalist Roulette. (I'm sure most guys would sell their cars to get her phone number!) I'm talking real women here; not a dyke in sight; and leather bras all the way. Fuck it, let's forget they're girls, because they can sure play their instruments, no two ways about it and they are certainly as tight as any male bands.

The music is more harmony orientated than anything else, a'la early QUEEN and SWEET. But it's impossible to describe the music really; it's definately not riffy and certainly not cliched.

"Love Is For Suckers" says it all and I'm definately a sucker when it comes to this band. "Where You Are" is class, especially the middle part with it's sighing type vocals that really get to the parts that other bands don't reach.

"Right Time" is my favourite cut; a fast paced affair with a riff similar to LEGS DIAMOND. Gina Stiles' axework is killer stuff.

"Nobody's Home" is a ballad with HEART written all over it. "The Waiting" has a highly infectious chorus that definately sticks in your mind, whilst album closer "Electric City" is another fast paced rocker that certainly keeps the current running.

Now as far as I'm concerned there are only two girl HM bands worth writing about: POISON DOLLYS and PRECIOUS METAL. I still think TOUGH LOVE have as much chance as anybody if they get their act together and I've yet to hear LA's FELINE, but apart from these girl bands who else is there? Answers on a post-card.....

KELV HELLRAZER

MANIAC
Killing For Pleasure 7" EP
(Rentaracket Records)

MANIAC are basically a punk/metal crossover band and this four tracker is the first release on the newly launched Rentaracket Records.

The first track "1984" is based around an impressive guitar solo which could best be described as Eddie Van Halen with a punk backing!

"Adrenalin Rush" features some heavy duty riffing which is the bands strong point, although I can't say I go a bundle on the blatant punk vocals. "Killing For Pleasure" again relys on a strong riff but in my opinion the standout track is the thrash inspired "Say No".

If you're into thrash metal with the punk overtones then check MANIAC out. To contact the band send an SAE/IRC to:- MANIAC, c/o Rentaracket Records, 10 Lackmore Gardens, Woodcote, Reading, Berks, RG8 OSL, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE

X-MAS PROJECT
Bangin' Round The Xmas Tree
(Earthshaker)

I know what I'd like to be bangin' round the Xmas tree, but that's beside the point! Anyway here's one of those seasonal records that shouldn't be looked at as a serious offering.

This four-track EP has beenput together by a man well known in these pages; Earthshaker Records and 'Rock Power' magazine boss Axel Thubeauville. The musicians who appear on this 12" of festive fun are vocalists Thorsten Bergmann (LIVING DEATH) and Reent Frohlich (FACT); STEELER guitarists Axel Rudi 'Jingle Buzzles?' Pell and Thomas Eder; bassist Martin Bork (LIONS BREED) and drummer Jorg Musielak (AVENGER - the German version).

Now what these guys have put together is a pure joke and shouldn't be taken seriously OK? Bergmann sings lead on probably my favourite tracks; semi-speed metal versions of "Jingle Bells" and "Silent Night"; whilst Reent Frohlich puts his tonsils into good use on "White Christmas" and "Winter Wonderland" (Done better last year by STRYPER, but there ya go).

If you're in the mood for some laughs and have no idea what to get your little sister/brother for Christmas, then forget buying them that donkey ARCADIA album and get 'em this. Worth it for Toto Bergmann's unique vocal abilities alone!

DAVE REYNOLDS

LUST
Lust 12" EP
(Lust Records)

This mini-LP is very similar to SEDUCE, but there's more class involved and the pace is much slower. Check-out "Hooker" for proof, very heavy riffing mixed with a KEEL type sound for a formula that can't fail to please. "Nites Are Lonely" starts off with an "Ain't Talking 'bout Love " riff but soon develops into a classy rocker with a Y & T tinge.

Elsewhere "We're Gonna Come Gunnin'"kills and "You Can't Rape The Willing" says it all. Highly recommended stuff. Pity it's only a 5-tracker.

KELV HELLRAZER

HADES
The Cross/Widows Mite
(Hades)

"The Cross" is a fairly old song by this New Jersey group and should therefore be well known to demo traders. The acoustic intro reminds me of somebody else, but I can't think who. Anyway it's a good epic, well played and arranged. "Widows Mite" is a bit more up tempo with some chunky guitar work from Dan Lorenzo and Scott Lepage, and Alan Tecchio is a more than adequate vocalist. Recommended. Write to: HADES, 276 Main Ave., Clifton, NJ 07014, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS

IDOL RICH
Working Girls EP
(Idol Rich 12")

This is the Gloucester groups debut recording and it's, quite simply, excellent. If you can imagine a heavier RATT guitar sound with a Jon Bon Jovi style vocalist - only better, then you've got IDOL RICH. The production, by the group themselves, is superb and puts a great many major bands to shame. The EP title comes from a line in one of the four tracks, "Paint Your Face", which is obviously dealing with a favourite HM lyrical theme, that of prostitution. This and the other tracks; "Wind Up", "Dirty Dreams" and "City Streets" indicate that these guys (Lee Silver - vocals, Tim Jones - guitar, Nick Burr - guitar, Jeff Curtis - bass and Mike Fisher - drums) are gonna break the doors wide open in '86. Info: Stax Mgt., 1024 Alcester Rd., South Maypole, Birmingham B14, ENGLAND.

DAVE REYNOLDS

1313
Silent Hero/Nation Of Strangers
(1313 Records)

This is an impressive single for an independant release. "Silent Hero" is full of melody and has DEF LEPPARD influences but certainly not to the extent of HELLION. This catchy style definately sticks in your mind. B-side "Nation Of Strangers" is just as good in fact maybe better with swirling keyboards and highly impressive vocals by Jay Spikes. The whole affair is produced by Tom Orso who is the drummer in GAMBLER (two LP's on EMI-America remember?) and there's a special thanx to the new goddess of R'N'R TOUGH LOVE's Gerre Edinger, so it must be worth checking out. Send $2.50 to: R.Wilson, 120 E.Ogden Ave., Suite 10, Hinsdale, IL 60527, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

VARIOUS ARTISTS
Anglican Scrape Attic Flexi-EP
(Earache Records)

Five tracks of hardcore thrash on show here. All worthy thrashers will already be familiar with HIRAX and a track "Destruction And Terror" taken from their great debut album.

Halesowen's SACRILEGE too have recently released a promising mini-LP. The track featured here, "Blood Run" is previously unreleased and is ultra fast and awesome - great.

I've heard a lot about punk thrashers CONCRETE SOX but "Eminent Scum" doesn't really do the Nottingham band any justice here, being too short and featuring an abysmal attempt at a guitar solo.

The remaining two outfits are both Japanese punk bands. EXECUTE create a total wall of noise on "Your Eyes" and sound quite passable. But I find LIPCREAM's "Top Flight" appalling.

Copies of "Anglican Scrape Attic" can be obtained by sending 60p each ($1.50 in the USA) including p+p to: Earache Records, c/o Dig, 42 Hazelwood Road, Nottingham, NG7 5LB, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE

Through EMI

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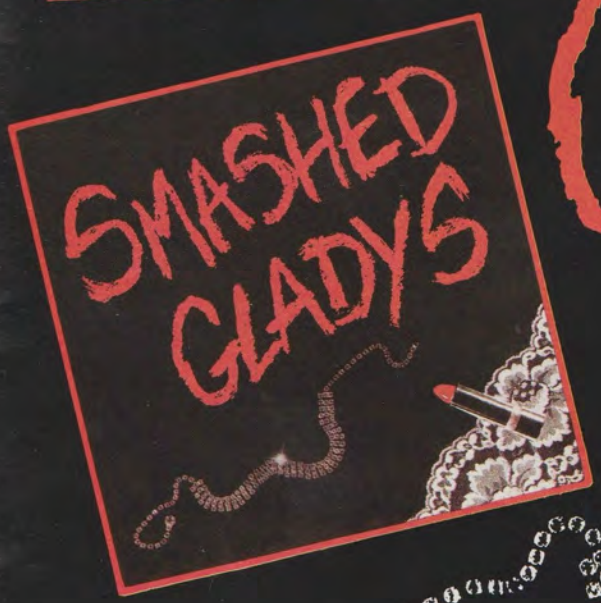

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MIDDLE OF THE ROAD

STEVE PRICE Speaks To MANILLA ROAD's MARK SHELTON

And Also Finds A Mid-West Metal Invasion On The Horizon

I have absolutely no idea why it happens but everyone I know, including many of the MF staff, appears to think that American metal emanates from New York (eg.East Coast) or LA/Frisco (West Coast) and that nothing happens in between. In fact, even an American friend told me "Kansas!!! Man that's the pits - nothing ever happens there". Oh! how wrong can people be.

During my short stay the following bands appeared in "the pits" - DIO, URIAH HEEP, GRIM REAPER, MOTLEY CRUE, LOUDNESS, NIGHT-RANGER, VAN ZANT, MANILLA ROAD AND LECTRIC LEATHER (who? - don't worry more on them in a minute).

On top of all that Kansas has the USA's best radio station in KICT and KICT has the USA's No. 1 metal jock in Shelley Hammer, so my first impression was that the Mid-West is heaven rather than hell.

Moft of the aforementioned bands have had enough written on them with the exception of MANILLA ROAD and LECTRIC LEATHER so the object of this brief Mid-West metal review is to concentrate on them.

MANILLA ROAD are a few years and four albums old and based, very much, around their focal point of Mark Shelton. With no disrespect to the rest of the band, Randy 'Thrasher'Foxe (drums) and Scott Park (bass), both of whom are excellent musicians, it is fair to say that without Mark Sheldon who plays lead and vocals, MR would not be where they are - he live and breathes MANILLA ROAD - However that's not to say Mark <u>is</u> the band because MR is very much a unit.

Offstage MR are normal human beings, on-stage they're WILD, the set containing a selection of numbers from their albums "Manilla Road", "Invasion", "Crystal Pride" (all of which were released on the Kansas based Roadster label) and the latest "Open The Gates" (released on France's Black Dragon), plus a couple of new numbers (such as the amazingly brilliant "Bells of Apathy").

It did seem odd that MR (who have yet to travel outside of the States) should sign to a French label, but as Mark explained "They offered us the best deal, they know their products and their promotion is excellent."

Had they had offers from any US based labels? "Yeah, several but none of them were right. There was always something we didn't like about them. Our only problem with Black Dragon is that here in the States our LP is an import which can make it expensive." Mark was also convinced that they would like to do their 5th album with Black Dragon. "Obviously we have got to get into high level discussions with them but we would certainly like them to handle the next one, at the same

time, sort out something for a European tour."

The band have always had a considerable amount of mail from European fans and since the release of "Open The Gates" this has risen dramatically.

"Metal fans in Europe seem so enthusiastic and people tell me that at gigs they're so different from Stateside ones that we can't wait to come over and the only problem is financial. Our management company are in France at the moment trying to sort everything out."

One of the things that made MR so keen on Black Dragon was that they were one of the few labels who were keen to release "Open The Gates" in its uncut form. If you already own a copy you'll know what I mean and if you don't own a copy then go and buy one now because it'll be one of the few chances you'll ever get of owning something that is almost one hour long.

"Most of the other labels wanted to release it edited down to around 40 minutes" said Mark "and there was no way we could go along with that".

It's fair to say that MR have consistantly progressed with each new product but Mark does make one comment regarding the efforts of past critics "I think we've tended to listen too much too them. If ever anyone said "Oh that's not right" we'd take the comment too much to heart. Sometimes it got very depressing."

MANILLA ROAD's next album is already under discussion and should be available early 1986 once the label situation has been clarified, so keep a good look out for it. (Oh yes - by the way lads, if "Bells Of Apathy" isn't on it I know a certain young lady who'll fly out there and sort you out).

Right, how do you write something about a band that you know absolutely nothing about! Hmm - well I suppose you don't expect to say that they're called LECTRIC LEATHER, they hail from Wichita and they're bloody good. The reason I know nothing about them is that it wasn't until after I'd seen them and departed that I realised just how good they are.

LECTRIC LEATHER are heavy and a sort of cross between MAIDEN and DIO. LL's commitment to metal cannot be questioned. For example how many guitarists do you know who would suffer the consequences of a very serious motorcycle accident, spend ages in a serious condition in hospital, then in a matter of weeks start gigging with his band on crutches. I only wish I knew his name so that I could give him some credit.

But, do not fear, LL are currently recording a demo that will be sent shortly to this delightful magazine for inclusion in Demolition complete of course, with full biog.

If you live in the Mid-West then check out both MANILLA ROAD and LECTRIC LEATHER, and if you don't then watch out because the Mid-West Metal Invasion could be heading your way.

FANZINE CORNER

Anyone who wishes to publicize their HM magazine/fanzine in METAL FORCES should send a sample copy along with details of obtaining the publication (please keep it short!) to: METAL FORCES, 17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 0EP, ENGLAND.

IMPORTANT: We cannot publicize magazines without first seeing a sample copy. This avoids printing letters from people with imaginary fanzines who are hoping to cash in on albums, demo tapes and other such freebies. So be warned!!!

Bands please note that all of the fanzines featured on this page are looking for demos and vinyl to review. So if you want to give more exposure to your band then send material, photo, biography to any of the addresses listed.

SCHLAG is the french fanzine that associates Power Metal, Hardcore and Fun - Issue No. 1 features, Rattus, Astaroth, Metallica, Carnivore, Motorhead and interviews with Agent Steel, Final Blast and Hirax. Send 10 French Franc to:-SCHLAG, c/o Herve Guegano, 18 bis, avenue de Sully, 78320 Le Mesnil, St Denis, FRANCE.

Italian magazine METALLO No. 3 is now out. It has a circulation of 3,000 copies and is the only Italian mag on sale at Shades Records. This number features Jag Wire, Astaroth, Tygers of Pan Tang, Slayer, NWOBHM, Nasty Savage, Saxon, Angelwitch, Adam Bomb. Send $2,00 or £1.50 to: Alessandro Massara, Via Monte di Dio 9, 80132, Napoli, ITALY.

Hail to all again, the new SUCK CITY is out. Priced $1.00. Issue No. 9 contains interviews with the Crown Prince of Nastiness, Nasty Ronnie, Chris Logue of SAVAGE GRACE, Blacktask, Atomic Opera, and Indianapoli' finest metal band - Nightchild! Cain't be! plus reviews of Warlock, Smack and Exxplorer amongst many copious others, including a truely 8¢ feature on the Dictators. Pour a glass of priest vomit, kick back on a bed of snails and check out the new Suck City: P.O.Box 441183, Indianapolis, IN 46204, USA. UNK!

YOUR FLESH fanzine. New issue out now featuring Venom, Prevaricators, Effigies, Ott's Chemical Lounge plus gig and record reviews and a few other misc extras. Copies are available for $2.50 (USA) or $3.00 (overdeas) from YOUR FLESH Fanzine, P.O.Box 3107 Mply, MN 55403. USA.

WRECKAGE. Issue No. 1 out now! Features Hirax, Possessed, Virgin Steele, Agent Steel, Exciter, Deuce, Megadeth and more. Issue 2 out soon and can be pre-ordered. Checks and MO's to Tim Gutierrez. Cash welcomed. WRECKAGE c/o Tim Gutierrez, 14809 Danville Rd., Woodbridge, VA 22193, USA.

CREEPING DEATH!! Hardcore-Metal Magazine!!! Issue 1 out now! Features interviews with Exodus, Trouble, Impaler, Nasty Savage, At War, Blacktask, Have Mercy, plus articles, reviews, and more! Send $1.50 (US), $2.50 (elsewhere) to: CREEPING DEATH c/o Brian Burroughs, 2142 3rd St NW, New Brighton, MN 55112, USA.

METAL MANIA No. 15 - 4th Anniversary Issue! - Out Now!! featuring Judas Priest, Mercyful Fate, Metal Church, Uli Roth, C.O.C., Suicidal Tendencies, Ramones, Savatage, Hirax, Possessed, Mentors, Dark Angel, A.O.D, and lots more. Send $2.00 (US) or $3.00 (Overseas) to: METAL MANIA, c/o Ron Quintana, 4340 20th St., San Francisco, CA 94114, USA.

UNIVERSAL BRAIN BASHER MAGAZINE. The no. 1 leading cause of Brain Damage. Issue 2 features: Omen, Attila, Stiletto, Synbad, Phantasm, Rapid Tears, Elixir, Steel Prophet, Plus interviews with Malice and Hallows Eve. Uncle basher writes back and more! Send $1.00 or £1.00 to: BASH Quarter Issue 2, 29008 Gladioulus Drive, Canyon County, CA, 91351, USA.

HIGH OCTANE metal/rock review magazine - issue 85/2 now available for £1.00/$2.00 including P+P. Bands featured include Iron Maiden, Megadeth, Znowhite, Max Planck, Gary Moore etc. + 10 pages demo revies. Write to: HIGH OCTANE, 45/47 Fernhill Road, Moorhead, Shipley W.Yorks. BD18 4SL. ENGLAND.

HARDCORE No. 2 out now! Interviews with Slayer, Hirax, Possessed, C. Frost etc. Send $2.50 (US), $3 (Europe) to: HARDCORE c/o Darryl Amaki, 769 Hoomalimali St., Pearl City, Hi, 96782, USA.

OCCASIONAL IRREGULARITY No.1: Metal/Core Fanzine features interviews with Exodus & COC and articles on SOD, Anthrax, Nuclear Assault and Cro-Mags. Send 50¢ and two stamps or $1.00 to: J. Rooney, 265-08 E.Williston Ave., Floral Pk., NY, 1101, USA. (Money orders payable to John Rooney).

METAL EMPIRE Magazine, one of the thickest underground headbangers magazines in the world!! Second issue-76 pages!!! Featuring bands like Armored Saint, Ratt, Warrior, Slayer, Nasty Savage, Teeze, Celtic Frost, Griffin, Hexx, Chastain, Shok Paris, Savage Grace, Sound Barrier, Desolation Angels, Zoetrope and much, much more!!!
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ASSAULT 3 out now! This issue includes Hallows Eve, Dark Angel, A.O.D., Death A ngel, Cryptic Slaughter, Kreator, C.O.C., Whiplash, Artillery, Slaughter and more. Send $2.50 (US) or $3.00 (overseas) to: ASSAULT C/O Warren Hall, 335 Rosilie St., San Mateo, CA, 94403. USA.

XXX BLACKOUT - German Fanzine features in No. 4 (36 pages) interviews with Kreator, Razor, Hallows Eve, Avenger (GB & FRG), Warlock, Jaguar, Helloween and more. Also articles on Fact, Agent Steel, Laaz Rockit, At War, Enforce, Medieval, Savage and More.. The price for "Germany's Loudest Fanzine" is 5DM or $2.00 or £1.50 from: Wolfram Kuper, D 'Dietz-Weg 13 6231 Schwalbach, West Germany or Georg Loegler, Zasiusstr. 120, 7800 Freiburg, WEST GERMANY.

KIX ARE FOR KIDS

So Says DAVE SHAW

1985 hasn't really been a good year for classic releases, maybe 5 or so LP's stand out in my mind, including ICON, ILLUSION, AEROSMITH and KIX. For those of you who read my KIX review in MF 14, will know that I think that "Midnight Dynamite" will be the one to break KIX into the big time. So recently I spoke to bassist Donnie Purnell, having just played the Bayou Club in Washington D.C. where by all accounts "they had a hell of a show".

I first asked Donnie to give me a brief history of the band? "I started the band with Ronnie, our guitar player. We borrowed a hundred bucks, found out about Brain, then got a drummer by the name of Donnie Spence who lived in Hagerstown. We also started the band with a different singer than we have now. We played like that for 2 or 3 months, before we got rid of the first singer because he was dumb. Then we heard about Steve, he was a drummer at the time but he sang a lot of stuff, so we stole him from the band he was in and made him our singer, finally we got rid of our drummer and got Jimmy Chalfont. After about a year with this new line-up we got our deal with Atlantic."

Which leads me to my next question, how did the deal with Atlantic come about? "We made lots of demo tapes and sent them to different record companies, and the first company to see us was Atlantic. The guy liked us but didn't have the power to sign us, so he arranged for us to fly to New York and do an audition for all the big wheels at the record company. So we set up all out gear and played for 50 minutes, and after the third song the President and Vice President of the record company took our manager outside. At first we thought they weren't interested, but we didn't give a fuck, we kept on looking at each other and I was telling Jimmy they're eating this shit up; I thought we totally bombed. At the end of the whole thing the guy said do you want to be on Atlantic Records, we're be happy to sign you!"

You've just released a new LP, what's the response you're getting from the fans? "This has been our most successful LP. I'm most proud of this record, out of all of them, I think it's real consistent and no questions when you listen to it about what we do and where we're coming from. We learned a lot from the first two LP's because none of us had any studio experience, also we had a good producer on this one. We're getting fan letters and everyone is real positive about the album."

"Midnight Dynamite" sees you go back to more straight ahead rock'n'roll like the first LP. "Cool Kids" seemed more pop than hard rock, was this anything to do with the producer, or did you want to go for a more sleazier sound? "When we made that record we had a different manager and the songs on the album really rocked out. But when we were done recording and it was time to mix, our old manager came down and he thought it had to be lightened up because he thought it was too heavy to get played on the radio. Between him and the producer they bought the guitars down and added keyboards to it - it burnt me up. We can do those songs on the second album now and they sound so much better live than on record because we don't have a keyboard player. We make it much more powerful. Those songs were originally powerful, but they took some of that power away by trying to get it on the radio."

Was it Beau Hill's idea to bring in Mike Slammer and Anton Fig? "Mike Slammer was a friend of Beau's because he had just done the STREET's album. The reason we had Anton come in was because Jimmy had a pinched nerve in his arm and he had to have an operation before we recorded the last two songs. Before we sent Jimmy off to the hospital, we had him do all the drum parts on a drum machine. Then Anton came in for one day and played a real drum track to those two songs. It was pretty strange but it worked out really good."

You're an East Coast band with a West Coast image, have you ever thought about moving to L.A.? "I don't know. We're going out there to see how everything goes, we do so well over in Maryland, Baltimore and New York - it keeps us alive. We probably have that opportunity to come here, to make big bucks, be rock stars and have lots of fans, but we have considered maybe going to more of a music hub, like L.A. or New York, just so that we have daily contact with the music world."

How important is the image to you? "It's fun, I would never want to have no image. Some people say that image shit is just bullshit, and it doesn't make the music any better or any worse, which is true, but it makes it more fun for us and more fun to a lot of people to look at a band that is a little different than every body else."

Do you pay much attention to bands like RATT and MOTLEY CRUE? " I like RATT's two L.P.'s. Of all the bands like RATT, MOTLEY CRUE, TWISTED SISTER and QUIET RIOT I like RATT the best."

Who are your influences besides beer, women and pizza? (Much laughter). "I like AC/DC, ROLLING STONES and AEROSMITH. We toured with AEROSMITH a lot, they're real easy to work with, they don't screw us around like some bands. I like some punk too, the real fast stuff."

Are you getting much airplay, and what do you think of these people who want to put stickers on the records warning people about the lyrics? Wouldn't that stop some of your songs being played on the radio? " I hope that moral shit dies down because I can't take much more. Like these religious HM bands, I can't stomach that stuff. (They've just played a few dates with STRYPER). For a rock'n'roll band to get up and say we got a new scheme and play God for an hour.. I can't handle it. Rock'n'Roll to me is from the day it started till today. It still has the same reason, it's meant for youthful people with a youthful message, like going out and having a good time,

it shouldn't be a podium for people to express their political and religious views. If I want to hear someone make a point I'll watch Twenty Twenty."

The LP was delayed for some months, why was that? "We were going to do the first half of the record with Beau and then find another producer to do the second half, because Beau had to do the RATT LP. But while recording the first half of our record we were trying to talk him into doing the whole album because he is really good, he knew what we wanted. Anyway he then went to do the RATT record and we convinced him to finish our album rather than turn it over to another producer. It was worth it for us to wait until the RATT record was done, then he came back and finished our LP."

Finally Donnie what are you're plans for the future? "We're going to do this L.A. thing and we've just come back from New England where we played with SOFT WHITE UNDERBELLY (i.e. B.O.CULT) and HEAVEN. Then we did a lot of our own shows and everyone we did was a success. Our live show is really happening, we picked out all the best songs from the three LP's and put them in a nice order, and we did little things to make our stage show visually exciting. We're dying to get in the game, and so far it's working real good."

I for one really hope KIX can break out and make it big. They're off to California at the end of November for a short tour. Me. I'm just hoping that KIX play England one day. One thing's for sure this kid will be there.

AXE KILLER RECORDS

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PENBANGERS

METAL FORCES•17 Livingstone Link• Chells • Stevenage • Herts SG2 0EP

I am a lunatic, maniac, freak and I'm insane. Totally into black,death, thrash, power, speed metal. I'm totally madly into Slayer, Destruction, Venom, Hellhammer, Celtic Frost, Exodus, Bulldozer, Hallows Eve, Iron Angel, Pentagram, Dark Angel, Onslaught, Helloween, Possessed, M. Fate, Devil Childe, Megadeth and a hell of a lot more. Fuckin bands like Quiet Riot, Def Leppard, AC/DC, Night Ranger and any other fuckin shit false metal bands can rot in Hell!!! Want to correspond with females/males from all over the world who is into Death Speed Metal All letters answered so write to: Galen Kliven, 2027 Maple Ave., Loves Park, Illinois, 61111, USA. No wimps or posers you will be possessed by Satan. Remember Satans metal rules and long live satan!!

For Trade, live and demo tapes of: Lee Aaron, Accept, Anthrax, Bon Jovi, Exciter, 44 Magnum, Electric Sun, Metal Church, Metallica, Vow Wow and lots more. Send list or IRC to: Metallian, De Delle 52, 7609CH, Almelo, HOLLAND.

Please help me clear my cupboard!! It's full with 4,000 live photos and 1,000 official promo photos (from magazine). I'm hungry for albums, specially US pressings. In for a trade? Write to: Stefan Rooyackers, P.O.Box 7556, 5601 JN Eindhoven, HOLLAND.

I would like to hear from any serious tape traders anywhere in the world. I have over 500 live and demo tapes from Slayer, Metallica, Ozzy, Twisted Sister, the mighty Van Halen to Reo, Boston and Wham (only joking, I don't have any Slayer tapes. Your list gets mine send to: Eddie Mansell, 181A St. Albans Road, Watford, Herts., WD2 5BD, ENGLAND.

17-YEAR-OLD-Male into Metallica, Slayer, Hirax, Exodus, Laaz Rockit, Hallows Eve, Death Angel, Destruction, Metal Church, Voi Vod, Exciter, Megadeth, Iron Angel, Nasty Savage, Loudness, Possessed, Overkill, Running Wild, Bathory, GBH, Onslaught, Steel Assassin and much more. I want to trade photos, t.shirts, live tapes, videos etc. All fanzines urged to write for articles and interviews!!! Write or Die!!! HEAVY METAL ONSLAUGHT- c/o John Fetters, 566 Fiesta Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403, USA. P.S. "Fuck The Posers"!!!

DEATH Metal Thrasher, looking to trade live and demo tapes worldwide. I'm into Celtic Frost, Destruction, Death, Dark Angel, Bathory, Sodom, Voi Vod, Iron Angel, Hirax, Razor, Slaughter, Hallows Eve and other death metal/hardcore bands. Write to: Ted Chronis, S.U.C.B. 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Tower 1, Buffalo, NY 14222, USA.

17-YEAR-OLD metal female into Priest, Anthrax, Accept, Pretty Maids, Rock Goddess etc. Looking for male and female penpals from England, US, Europe etc. Write to: Yuko Takahashi, 348-1 Tsumada, Atsugi-shi, Kanagawa, 243 JAPAN. No Quiet Riot, Bon Jovi, Night Ranger fans!!

DEATHRAGER into Hirax, Possessed, Slayer, Sodom, Death, Cryptic Slaughter, Celtic Frost, Destruction, Bathory, COC and all other thrashing death metal bands. I trade tapes, pix, flyers. I have lots of stuff to trade so send lists to Frank Colon, 4781 Santiago Dr., La Palma, California 90623, USA. Rage till death!!!

ALL you fuck, fuckin', fuckers out there, write to me or die. I'm into Death Thrash, shit like, Anti-Christ, Poison(WG), Mayhem(NY) etc... I'm also into every hardcore shit there is like DRI, AOD, Seige, MDC, Mental Abuse etc... So all you thrashers out there and girls who want to get laid write to: Sal Scarpulla, 61-57 62 rd Middle Village, Queens, NY, 11379, USA. NO posers or wimps.

ALL Death Metal maniacs look here! I'm a 15-year-old death metal maniac into Artillery, Slayer, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Sodom, Destruction etc. I would like to trade demos and live tapes. I have lots of demos and live tapes such as Fate and Hellhammer. Write or Die to: Kenneth Eintsen, Ramelsvag 53, S-21369, Malmo, SWEDEN.

ENGLAND's No. 1 Metallica freak into total death Slayer, Exodus, Venom, Trouble, Metal Church, Anthrax, Exciter, Bulldozer seeks to exchange anything metal and correspond with all deathbangers, metal thrashers worldwide. No wimps. Please write to: James Thrash Miller 10 Shinwell Walk, Broadfield, Crawley, Sussex, ENGLAND.

15-YEAR-OLD true headbanger, who is very hardcore, loyal fan of METALLICA. I'm sick to death of wimp shit such as Maiden, Saxon, Motorhead and Motley Pooh. If you are male/female live in England, Germany or USA and are totally dedicated to the cause of METALLICA, then write to:- Bruce'Banger' Barron, 2 Ackroyd Court, Thornton, Bradford, BD13 3AS, West Yorkshire, ENGLAND.

LOOK HERE!! If you're a male banger (aged 18-25) and into Manowar, Metallica, Sodom, Slayer, Venom, Exciter, Fate. You have no choice. Write immediately to me. I'm female, I'm 18 and I want YOU! (Photo = Answer). Apolonija Rohdin, Engelbrektsg 22A, S-30250 SWEDEN.

39-YEAR-OLD metal case thrasher sucker to the max core. Would like to correspond with others mostly ladies. I'm into Priest, Sabbath, Thor, Wendy O'Williams, Precious Metal, Jaded Lady, Evil, Knightmare II, Ruthless, Asylum, Razor, Day Sleeper, Malice, Metallica, Odin, Black'n'Blue, Witch, Leatherwold, Megadeth etc.. Glenn Lee Martin, 16342 Santa Anita Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647, USA.

AMERICAN metaller seeks videos, photos and other rare merchandise on the following bands: SORTILEGE, PRIEST, MAIDEN, ACCEPT, SAVAGE GRACE, JAG PANZER, MALICE, METALLICA, RAVEN, FATES WARNING, HADES, AVENGER(English) and ANTHRAX. Also seeks fellow metal heads into a superb, up and coming band called LIEGE LORD. I'll turn you on to them, 'cos LIEGE LORD's excellent! So write and all letters will be answered! Patrick Prince, 126 Myrtle Ave, 4, Stamford, CT, 06902, USA.

GLAM, Slam King, wishes to hear from die-hard metal merchants that will kill posers the minute they see them! Into Malice, Poison, Witch, Warlord, Overkill, Eden, Damien Thorn, Slayer, Heretic, Anvil, Kiss, Icon, Mad Whip Thunder, Virgin Steele, Omen, King Kobra and more. Please send picture. I want to hear from people all over the world. Write to: Mike, 29008 Gladiolus, Canyon Country, CA 91351, USA.

N.Y.C. Metaller wants to buy/trade fanzines and albums with other dedicated rattleheads. My favourites are Manowar, Savatage, Abattoir, Slayer, Chastain, Griffin, Hallows Eve, Exciter, Metal Church, Attacker and Megadeth. Send lists to: C. Dzilvelis, 160 Wadsworth Ave., Apt. 205, New York, NY 10033, USA.

19-YEARS-OLD male from Canada into: Slayer, Exodus, Dark Angel, Voi Vod, Death Dealer, Savatage, Helloween, Warrant, Metal Church etc... Wants to trade demos and live tapes with male and females. Send your list to: Dan Lacroix, 3583 Cabot, Jonquiere, G7X 1R3, Quebec, CANADA.

HELLO! I have had enough of Exodus and Slayer. I would like to trade demos/live tapes of real unknown hardcore/thrash metal bands (the faster the better). I've heard of bands like Screaming, Lilith, Carnage, Fallen Angel etc. Does anybody have stuff by these (and of course other) bands??? If so, you must write (please) - but of course I'm into any other black fucking speed thrashing burning metal bands. Current faves: C.O.C., Vermin, Hirax, Voi Vod, and most of all POSSESSED. So if you think that you are heavier than me write to: Tribulation, Dorpsstr. 41, Lonneker, (Overijssel), HOLLAND.

14-YEAR-OLD Death Metal Thrasher into.. Hirax, Death, Possessed, Genocide, Cryptic Slaughter, Bathory, Sodom, Exodus, Zoetrope, Celtic Frost, and any other shit that would make a werewolf barf!!! I want to trade demos and live tapes with fellow thrashers! Write to: Bob Barnovitz, 1342 Shadow Lake Terrace, Palatine, IL 60074, USA.

I'M a 16-year-old female heavily into Maiden, Accept, MSG, UFO, Saxon, Whitesnake and many more. Wants to hear from males all over (esp. England) Up the Irons! Write soon. Lisa Hoffman, 1125 Franklin Ave., Pittsburg, PA 15221, USA.

DEATH METAL DRUMMER into Hirax, Slayer, Exodus, Possessed, Bathory, Celtic Frost, Death, Dark Angel, Iron Angel, and all other thrashing bands. I trade tapes, pix, printings etc. Send list to: Frank Colon, 4781 Santiago Dr., La Palma, CA 90623, USA. Bang Till Death!

17-YEAR-OLD Metal Maniac heavily into: Metallica, Destruction, Megadeth, Slayer, Fates Warning, Accept, Exodus, Hallows Eve, Agent Steel, etc... Seeks other serious metal maniacs worldwide to write to. Contact: Metal Maniac 'Dawn', 136 Hillside Ave., Milford, CT 06460, USA.

I'M a 20-year-old female into violent thrashing, chains and spikes and would like to correspond with SMF's around the world who can keep me from going crazy with these wimps in Hawaii. I like Celtic Frost, Destruction, Bathory, Sodom, Possessed, Exodus, Pile Driver, Venom, Megadeth and Slayer or anything that thrashes, massacres and bludgeons with unadulterated power. If anybody can relate to what I'm saying please write to: Allison Nakachi, 622 Aipo St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96825, USA.

METAL Monger, 19, looking for traders and exchangers also a female. I'm into Priest, Fate, Exodus, Running Wild, Torch, Iron Angel, Metal Church, Steeler, Jag Panzer, Have Mercy, Slayer, Abattoir and Hallows Eve. Contact: Jim Rotter, 1226 2nd Ave., Schenectady, NY 12303, USA. Phone: (518) 377-0465.

I'M a 14-year-old death and speed metal freak, who hates all wimps and posers. I'm into Sodom, Dark Angel, Exodus, Hallows Eve, Piledriver, Gravedigger, Metal Church, Megadeth, Laaz Rockit, Lethyl Synn, Celtic Frost and of course Cirith Ungol. Plus Bathory kills.

My two faves are Slayer and Omen. I am trying to start a death metal band if you live in the Pittsburgh area write me. I would like to correspond, especially with women and buy tapes. Write to: Bill Ridinger, 442 Inland Lane, West Miffin, PA 15122,USA.

16-YEAR-OLD into Kiss (live tapes to trade) Hanoi Rocks, Crue, Venom, Maiden, Wrathchild and all glam-rock. Write to: Joe 'Motley' Pensanti, 110 Milford Ave., Stratford, Connecticut, 06497, USA.

14-YEAR-OLD male metal maniac into Slayer, Metallica, Exodus, Griffin, Exciter, Megadeth, Destruction, Dark Anger, Whiplash and others, wants to buy or trade demos and correspond with thrashers all over the world. Write to: Chris Gaffney, 2164 Las Gallinas, San Rafael, CA 94903, USA.

FEMALE metal maniac and bass player, 24, into Scorpions, MSG, Fate, Ryche, Olde UFO, Accept, Metallica, Maiden, Destruction, Fates Warning, Exodus, Slayer and others; wishes to hear from all metal men from Germany ony. Please write to: Donna, C/O Damen, 140 Clipper Avenue, Edison, NJ, 08817, USA.

24-YEAR-OLD dutch headbanging video collector is looking for people to trade videos with. I've got several videos recorded with my own camera (IE Slayer Dynamo, Pretty Maids, Warlock, Lee Aaron). Send list to: Nico Wobben, Ruysdaelstraat 40, 6415 TZ Heerlen, Holland.

FEMALE into Exciter, Metallica, WASP, Armored Saint, Twisted Sister, Iron Maideon, Priest, Saxon, Oz, Yngwie Malmsteen, Keel etc. Wants penpals. Send photo if possible. Write to: Jo, 8106 Whittington Dr., Parma, Ohio, 44129, USA.

WANTED: Live tapes and demos of Tank, Metallica, Running Wild, Jag Panzer, Overkill, Pile Driver, Hallows Eve, Hirax, Omen, Zoetrope, H.Bomb, Dark Angel and Grave Digger. I have access to a large selection of T.Shirts: Exodus, Slayer, Metallica, Venom just to name a few. Let's trade! Daryl Beverley, 9412, Glasgow Pl., LA, California, 90045, USA.

16-YEAR-OLD metal maniac into Exodus, Slayer, Metallica, Venom, Megadeth, Death, Bathory and all thrash/black/death metal. Looking for metalheads from all over the world. Send live/demo list if into trading. Write to: K.K. Joseph, 11447 Rolling Hills Dr., El Cajon, CA, 92020,USA. All letters answered.

15-YEAR-OLD trader wants to trade tapes with anyone into death metal! Fave bands are Possessed, Death, Destruction, Slayer, Hirax etc. Write now and send your lists to: Joel Wing, 52 Greenview Ln., El Sobrante, CA, 94803, USA.

AMERICAN metal head into Trouble, Savatage, Angelwitch, Glacier, Running Wild, Slayer, Savage Grace, Exciter, Overkill and just about all good heavy metal bands from straight forward to death. Would like to correspond with other metal maniacs around the world. I also collect demos and have many to trade. Write to Dean Papazidis, 24 St. Charles Ave., Stamford, CT, 06907, USA, Die Hard!

FEMALE metal merchant and singer, 21, would like to write to male metal thrashers from the UK only, into: Slayer, Exodus, Fate, Metallica, Deep Purple, Exciter and Iron Maiden, Write to: Jennifer, 1-D Wolski Drive, Elizabeth, New Jersey, 07202, USA.

16-YEAR-OLD Canadian headbanger into Metallica, Hirax, Slayer, Exodus, Anthrax, Metal Church, Voi Vod, Death Dealer, Exciter. I want to hear from thrashers all over the world to trade live and demo tapes. Send me your list and I'll send mine. (Write in French or English). Write to: Pascal Langlois, 2246 La Marche, Jonquiere, Quebec, 67S IL6, CANADA.

MALE HM drummer, 19, Dio fanatic also into Sabbath, Priest, Maiden, Motorhead, old Rainbow, Metallica, Purple, Accept, Exciter, Queensryche and other energised metal wants to hear from females (17+) with same interests in Canada, UK, Eire, Australia and the States. No wimp or black metallists please. All letters answered. Randy, P.O.Box 71, Goshen, Indiana, 46526, USA.

I'M a 18-year-old guy who wants to trade correspondence, live tapes etc., with headbangers all around the world. I'm into Ozzy, Maiden, Motorhead, Zeppelin, Metallica, Fate, Slayer, Loudness, Exodus and any other good metal bands, but no false metal! Write to: Marcelo Takayas, Rua Hans Staden, 10/501 - Botafogo, Rio de Janerio/ RJ 22281, BRAZIL.

18-YEAR-OLD female METALLICA maniac is looking for anything on the band, especially European live tapes, photos, etc. I will pay top dollar for Metallica merchandise in excellent condition! Correspondence is also welcome! Metallithrashers write: Sheila Scott, 14150 El Dolora Way, Poway, CA 92064-3015, USA.

SLAUGHTERING Death Thrasher into: Exodus, Possessed, Death, Slayer, Sodom, Destruction, Bathory, Voi Vod and Metallica just to name a few. I also play in a murderously insane raging death band. Into ALL guitarists of God status. I want to correspond with anyone into Absolute Death. Into trading demos and live tapes of unknown and well known band, also hardcore punk thrash/death. Your list gets mine. Write to: Death Squad H.Q., P.O.Box 203, Colebrook, Pa, 17015, USA.

THE world's deadliest speediest fan in the world wants to trade total death! My favourite band is Intense Mutilation and I'd like to trade for <u>anything</u> by them. My other favourite bands are Blood Death, Necrophile, Corruption and Arsenic!!! Both Pungent Vomit from Intense Mutilation and Henry Isaac from Arsenic are walking sicks!!! Write to: Lee V., 1726 Richmond Road, Apt. 2D, Staten Island, New York, 10306, USA.

RAGING death banger thrashes to: Slayer, Celtic Frost, Hirax, Exodus, C.O.C., Wargod, Destruction, Megadeth, Dark Angel, Voi Vod, GBH, Cryptic Slaughter, Sodom, Death, Possessed, Venom, Iron Angel, and fuckin' lots more!! I want to trade live or demo tapes of the above. No false metallists. Fuck poser metal. Send lists to: Chris Spellman, 8233 6th St., Downey CA 90241, USA. Bang your head till your dead!!!

KRAZIE metalbanger (who has been to the Rock In Rio Festival) wants to correspond to power metal fanatics from England, Japan, US and Spain. I worship groups like Slayer, Venom, Voi Vod, Exciter, Anthrax, Baron Rojo and especially Ozzy Osbourne. Write in English to: Salvador Crowley - Av. N.S. de Copacabana No. 1236/603, Copacabana, Rio De Janeiro, 22070, BRAZIL.

WANTED: The Wrathful to write to a metalhead, 17, male, into Maiden, Priest, Ozzy, Metallica, Yngwie & Randy, WASP, Queensryche and other power/thrash metal bands like Slayer. Any one welcome to write male or female,young or old. Will trade demos or bootlegs or other stuff. Andy Miller, 3271, Countryside Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403, USA. P.S. 666! He lives! Females: I welcome nasty letters!!!

I'M a French-Canadian of 16 and I live for Voi Vod, Metallica, Slayer, Death Dealer, Motorhead, Tank, Acid, Hellhammer and Exciter. I want to have a penbanger who comes from France or any other country in the World of Satan for exchanging ideas and stock. Write to: Daniel 'Metal Maniac' Fortin, 3039 Dickie, Jonquiere (Arvida), Quebec, CANADA G75 2L5.

SEVENTEEN-year-old male. I must say I'm a mad motherfucker, looking for the females who are into Grim Reaper, Ozzy Osbourne, Metallica, Sabbath, Manowar, Loudness etc. Strictly females by request. Write to: Aslim 'Ozzy' Hosein, Hosein Terrace, El Socorro Ext 1, San Juan, Trinidad, WEST INDIES. 'Death To False Metal'. Any males who reply to this will be seriously fucked up.....

POWER/Death metal dude into all good thrash including Destruction, Sodom, Exciter, Celtic Frost, Anthrax, Death, Slayer, Voi Vod, Metallica, Nasty Savage etc. I want to buy/trade demos and merchandise. I have a good list. I'm also looking for metal magazines too. All letters answered, so write to: Phil Tallevast, 14 East Crabapple Lane, Asheville, N.C. 28804, USA.

THE HAWAIIAN HARDCORE METAL THRASHER wants to trade or buy live tapes, demos, videos, etc., I thrash to most speed/death/metal such as Slayer, Sodom, Dark Angel, Desstruction, Burnt Offerings, Annihilation etc. Also into thrash punk such as Suicidal Tendencies, COC, DRI, Dead Kennedy's etc. If interested send list to me. If not interested then fuck you!!! Write to: Hardcore Metal Thrasher c/o Sonny Calventas, 1912 Gulick Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819, USA. Kill The Fuckin' Posers!!!!

WANTED: Live and demo tapes to buy and trade from bands such as Motorhead, Exodus, Slayer, Hirax, Venom,Discharge, Megadeth, Exciter, Fate and any other metal to bring total destruction. Would like to hear from death thrashers all over the world. Send lists and letters to: James Pittman 3089 Langhorn Drive., Fremont, CA 94536, USA.

THRASHER into Exodus, Medadeth, Metallica, Slayer, Impaler, Nasty Savage, etc. Wants to trade tapes. Send lists to: Bill Martin, 2261 Sioux Blvd., New Brighton, MN 55112, USA.

THIS is a call for those two shit-kicking motherfuckers who live in South Australia and go by the names of Wendy O'Williams and Phil Campbell. Ant'ny The Imperial Slayer and ALG The Apocalyptic Attack are looking for you both. Write to us and give us your address so we can return your compliments. The longer it takes, the worse the consequences. Contact us, you fuckheads - NOW!! Ant'ny The Imperial Slayer, 194 Greenwood Dve, Bundoora 3083, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA.

14-YEAR-OLD SLAYER maniac interested in trading live/demo cassettes. I'm also looking for some more SLAYER video cassettes (VHS only). I also like Destruction, Venom, Megadeth, Exciter, Omen and lots of other thrash/death metal bands. So send your lists of Slayer stuff or just write me to rap about Slayer or other death metal bands!! Write to: Jeff 'Slayer' Keller, 4313 Morpheus Lane, Sacrament, CA. 95864, USA. P.S. Thrash 'til Megadeth!!

MANIAC Thrasher into disasterous death and hardcore such as: Sodom, Dark Angel, Possessed, COC, Exodus (of course!), DRI, Blast, Celtic Frost, The Accused, Onslaught, Anti-Christ, Final Warning, Poison Idea and much much more - wishes to trade live/demo tapes, shirts and/or flyers with anyone out there who might like some of the same noise. I will answer any letters, but if you're into Mouldy Crap or Rott don't fuckin' bother to even pick up a pen. Write to: Jeff Larson, 2225 NE Alaneda, Portland, Oregon, USA. 97212.

Ultra-hardcore thrasher into Death, Possessed, Destruction, Sodom, Mayhem(NYC) Kreator, Voor, Cryptic Slaughter, Iron Angel, Lethal Aggression, Oblivion, Violent Force, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Corpse etc. I hate I hate Megadeth, Exciter, Poison(W.G.), Sons Of Satan, Semen of Satan and the like. I would like to correspond and/or trade tapes with all raging death metal freaks on this planet. If interested write to: Borivoj Krgin, 13-24 123rd St., College Point, NY 11356, USA. Telephone: (718) 445-7765. Please include your lists if you're into trading tapes.

INSANE Aussie headbanger into: Venom, Voi Vod, Motorhead, Slayer, Metal Church, Hellhammer/Celtic Frost, Metallica, Exciter, Destruction, Warfare, Maiden. Fucking despise: Quiet Riot, Ratt, Van Halen, Faggots and straight mother fuckers. I want to hear from fair dinkum headbangers meeting the above requirements, if you don't meet the above requirements you shall be hunted down and sacrificed on the sabbath by the War Council. You <u>Will</u> write to: Barker The Keeper Of The Wolf, 50 Moreton Cres, Bundoora, Melbourne, Vic, AUSTRALIA. The War Council Will Have Your Soul!!

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